

Hafa Adai!

Nine allege food poisoning after eating raw oysters. **PAGE 5**
CNMI MathCourt rounds out Team CNMI. **PAGE 6**

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75¢

Overloaded outlet triggers fire

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

An overloaded multi-plug outlet reportedly triggered the huge fire that engulfed Kevin's Mart on Tun Segundo Street corner P. Yobbo Avenue next to the U.S. Postal Office in Chalan Kanoa early yesterday morning.

No one was reported injured during the blaze that was reported at 3:21am and placed under control at 6am, according to Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde.

Gersonde said the fire was caused by an overloaded multi-plug outlet in the din-

ing area, where multiple slow cookers had been plugged overnight.

Saipan Tribune learned that the dining area is called Kevin's Local Café, which is located on the ground floor of

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DEREK GERSONDE

Firefighters spray water into the building of Kevin's Mart on Tun Segundo Street in Chalan Kanoa. Arson investigators determined that an overloaded multi-plug outlet caused the blaze. The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services considers this case closed.

'Torres should have vetoed pay hike'

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Instead of doing nothing and allowing it to become law, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres could actually have vetoed the bill that would increase the salaries of all elected officials, according to House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan).

House Bill 19-3 became Public Law 19-83 due to a constitutional rule that allows bills to become law when the

See PAY HIKE on Page 4

Torres comes to the defense of CBP

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres commended yesterday the efforts of Customs and Border Protection officers, who are the first contact of tourists that visit the CNMI.

In a statement released by his office, Torres said he looks forward to working with the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Marianas Visitors Authority to help alleviate the

long immigration lines tourists endure after several hours of travel.

"The CBP officers that work the long hours and do the difficult work of protecting our borders should be commended and celebrated for their efforts. I thank them for being a productive partner to us in our tourism sector and hope to do what we can locally to enhance this important relationship," said Torres.

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EDUCATION UPDATE

PSS

Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero updates public education stakeholders on Tinian and Aguiguan—Parents, Teachers and Students Association, Office of the Mayor, municipal council, and legislative delegation—yesterday afternoon that Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres also participated in. This is part of an ongoing dialogue initiated by Deleon Guerrero, discussing issues and concerns involving all of the 19 public elementary, middle, and high schools in the CNMI.

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Wal-Mart will offer a lower free shipping threshold and faster delivery

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President Donald Trump fires Sally Yates, the acting attorney general of the United States.

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ASIA

The Philippine police chief stops the use of the national police force in anti-drug operations.

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Local

Group pushes bill to protect animals

By DEMALYNN S. PAGARAO
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REPORTER

An animal rights group on Saipan is pushing the House of Representatives to pass a bill that would prohibit cruelty and theft of animals and provide penalties for violators.

Jason Hudy of Saipan Care for Animals explained that House Bill 20-24 will help improve the lives of animals with medication, shelter, and socialization.

"This will increase the chances of animals, like dogs, to be taken home not just as just guard dogs but as a member of the family and as a loving pet," he said.

Hudy said that Saipan Care for Animals does all it can to care for the animals under its care. "Unfortunately a lot of families cannot afford the private practices here, and we do not do all that a private practice can do, but we do basic services that we are able to offer."

He feels that House Bill 20-24 will educate the community that animals, just like people, have feelings and it will hopefully decrease the number of animal abuse on island.

There, however, been a number of calls for the bill to be more specific.

"I ask that you look at the bill closely and specify what you will consider as animal

cruelty," said Juan I. Tenorio.

He said that he has been farming since he was in the fourth grade. Now at 69 years old, he feels it may affect the ways of farming on an island.

"I have grown to know that a dog is meant to be outside of the house. I take care of my dog; he is well fed, well medicated, and he is even fatter than I am. But I do not allow my dog inside the house. He is not meant to be on my bed or my couch. He is my guard, my protector. He has a doghouse outside. That is what I learned growing up, that dogs are to be used to protect our family, not to be inside our house," Tenorio said.

The bill states that cruel neglect means to knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly fail to provide an animal with necessary food, water, or shelter for the animal to maintain normal health. The bill's proposed penalties range from \$500 to \$5,000 fines.

Tenorio also pointed out that cockfighting is considered an animal sport. "If we stop the cockfights, we will create an atmosphere where people will be doing it illegally in the jungle. This is something that has been done by the elders for many years."

Saipan Care for Animals was founded in May 2015. "We have an average of 200 visitors

every month. They come with questions and we can help educate them. They come to volunteer and some people who bring in abused animals who need help," said Hudy.

"The number of abuse an-

imals that are brought into the shelter have increased and we have hope that this bill will lower that number and increase the number of adopted pets who go into happy homes."

Suit vs ex-Tinian mayor, *Tribune* dismissed

The Superior Court dismissed yesterday the defamation lawsuit filed by Ramon Quichocho against former Tinian mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz and the *Saipan Tribune*.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed with prejudice Quichocho's lawsuit after the latter failed to appear at the hearing on a motion to dismiss the case for lack of prosecution.

Dismissed with prejudice means Quichocho can no longer re-file the case against Dela Cruz, *Saipan Tribune*, its editor Jayvee L. Vallejera, and its former reporter Moneth Deposa.

Attorney Stephen P. Pixley appeared as counsel for Pacific Publications and Printing Inc., which owns *Saipan Tribune*, Vallejera, and Deposa. Assistant attorney general Charles Brasington appeared on behalf of Dela Cruz.

Pixley filed the motion to dismiss the case last September. Brasington joined the motion.

Last Dec. 14, former Saipan Municipal Council member Felipe Q. Atalig, and the defendants filed a stipulation to dismiss the case with prejudice. Atalig is Quichocho's co-plaintiff in the case. Camacho granted the motion that same day.

Atalig and the defendants indicated that they have settled their differences without the exchange of an amount.

Camacho then set a hearing on the motion to dismiss with respect to Quichocho's claims, as that the parties' stipulation does not include Quichocho.

According to the stipulation, no amount is being paid for the dismissal; instead, the parties have determined that it is in all parties' and the court's best interest for the matter to end now.

Quichocho and Atalig filed the lawsuit in 2011. It stemmed from Dela Cruz's statement that was written by Deposa and published by the *Saipan Tribune* on Jan. 28, 2011. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Demapan to prioritize critical policies

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) intends to prod the House of Representatives in a direction that would prioritize critical policies that would have a great impact on the CNMI, especially in its economic development.

The 20th Legislature held its first regular session yesterday on Capital Hill. The House leadership met Monday to prepare for yesterday's session.

Demapan said the cooperation of all House members is necessary in steering the leadership's course in the next two years.

"Steering it toward a strategic, meaningful, and sound policies to meet the needs of our growing economy. At the same time, addressing the challenges faced by our government, the business sector, and our people," he said.

He said the House's work and responsibility has become monumental. "There is so much at stake to ensure that the economic and social progress of the CNMI remains on track. I will continue to work closely with each representative and urge

House committees to work closely with various government agencies, the private sector, and the community."

"[This is] to identify our greatest and most critical issues facing us today and in the future. And to also ensure that we actually measure our performance and progress," Demapan said.

Working with the entire House leadership—GOP super majority and the minority—is one of the steps in achieving their goals for the entire community. "My leadership team would work to focus in identifying key priority issues of each member and of each House committee chair."

Their next step would also involve each House committee to connect with the private sector, government agencies, and other members of the community.

"This is only one of the first steps to better shape and identify existing and new legislation, and appropriations that needs to be prioritized in the next two years," said Demapan.

He also urged the entire community to get more involved in the legislative process by attending sessions where they could voice out their concerns.



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog sign the proclamation for the National Parent Leadership Month of February.

February is National Parent Leadership Month

By DEMALYNN S. PAGARAO
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REPORTER

Anthony Tomokane knows how it is to be a single dad.

Tomokane, who was chosen by Dandan Middle School as a Parent Leader in 2015, said that being a single parent—to be both the father and mother of his child—is also about time management.

"As the main and only provider for my daughter, I can say the No. 1 necessity of being a parent is time management. Being a single parent is twice the work, twice the stress, and twice the tears, but it is also twice the hugs, twice the love, and twice the pride."

Speaking of his experience during yesterday's signing of the proclamation of February as National Parent Leadership Month, Tomokane said it was an honor to be nominated as a Parent Leader and

to be asked to speak at the proclamation but he is more than happy to get out the message to other single parents that they are not alone.

In signing the proclamation, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres expressed his personal experience as a parent and how he knows it is not an easy task. He, however, encourages all parents to keep up with the endless obligation to teach their children to do the right thing.

Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, who joined Torres yesterday in the proclamation signing, said that every thing a child learns starts from home. "We cannot keep an eye on our kids 24/7. We need to provide them with the necessary love and care from home and they will carry that out into the community," said Hocog.

Parent Committee chair Luis Camacho was glad at the abundance of parents involved

in making the CNMI a more family-oriented place. He also announced the joy in celebrating the 48th year of Parents Anonymous Inc., an organization dedicated to mitigating and preventing adverse childhood experiences.

Activities in celebration of the 2017 Parent Leadership Month will kick off on Feb. 1 and will last until Feb. 7 with an outreach set up at the Nutrition Assistances Program office.

There will be daily Parent Education Services presentation at various schools around 5:30pm on Feb. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, and 21.

KKMP will do a radio interview with Parent Leaders on Feb. 8.

A meeting for the Parent Leadership Committee is set for every Thursday of February at 6pm at the Garapan Community Center.

CNMI schools will have an



Parent Leader Anthony Tomokane speaks about being a single parent at the proclamation signing for the National Parent Leadership Month of February.

islandwide waving on Feb. 24.

To end the month, there will be a Parent Development Workshop Day at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on March 3, 2017.



CO-OP TRAINING

Approximately 80 Marianas High School students will be attending this Thursday's CNMI PSS Cooperative Education Program Career Fair at the Saipan World Resort, from 1pm to 3pm. The spring 2017 semester just started three weeks ago and the co-op students have been in the classroom learning about the various careers/clusters on O-Net and Bureau of Labor, the CNMI workplace, how to dress for interviews/work, creating resumes, and practicing for employer interviews. This week they've been doing mock interviews with fellow classmates, classroom teachers, and school counselors. These Cooperative Training students are dressed to impress to complete mock interviews before Thursday's event. Businesses and organizations wanting to partner with PSS Co-op Program may contact brandon.nicholas@cnmipss.org.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OAG reaches out to protect consumers

By DEMALYNN S. PAGARAO
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REPORTER

The newly assigned consumer counsel for the CNMI reached out to some businesses yesterday on the vagaries of the Consumer Protection Act and how to make sure that they do not violate it.

Michael Cyganek, who was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting last Tuesday, is tasked with enforcing the Consumer Protection Act and to eradicate any problem or potential violation.

"It is like a two-fold thing, being the one to enforce the act and protecting the consumer," said Cyganek, "but we also do community outreach programs such as the 'Consumer Caution Corner' that is published in the newspaper weekly. We'd like to keep the community aware of different scams that have been going on locally and through unfamiliar phone calls."

Since being appointed as consumer counsel in the CNMI, Cyganek has been on the lookout for Internet scams.

"I would like to look into new age technology and how people are being taken advantage of. Since I have taken over the position on September last year, there have been a few cases, but we at the Attorney General's Office are working hard to focus on buyer goods in all types of industries," he said.

The Consumer Protection Act is said to be a way to regulate business practices and to promote an organized market environment. It aims to protect consumers as well as businesses in trying to rid the market of deceptive practices such as expired goods, counterfeit goods, and colluding with prices.

The Act, which identifies

about 30 different violations, prohibits businesses from misleading or confusing consumers, providing a mechanism for solving disputes between merchants and consumers and outlining civil and criminal remedies for those in violation of the law.

Some practices that are illegal include misrepresentation of auto repairs.

"Many consumers have been fooled by not only overpriced auto parts, but also counterfeit auto parts," said Cyganek. "It's all about fairness in the market and giving respect to consumers that they are given a

fair price and can still be able to provide for their family without giving an arm or a leg over a broken vehicle."

Expired goods that are not marked off a certain percentage of the original price, or on aisles that let consumers know it is expired is another example and can be a violation as the merchant is not being transparent to the consumer and giving them the choice of whether they want an expired item or not.

To inquire more on the Consumer Protection Act, contact Cyganek at consumer_counsel@cnmioag.org.

Safe Sleep environment



Always place baby on his or her back to sleep for all sleep times, including naps.



Room share- keep baby's sleep area separate, but in the same room where you sleep.

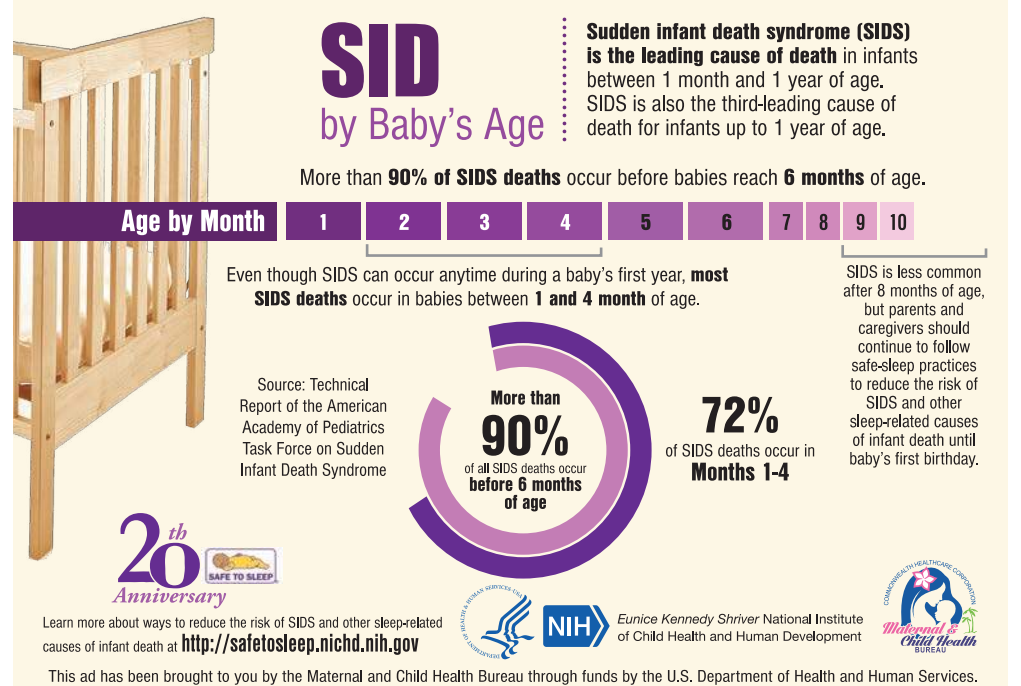


Use a firm sleep surface, free from soft objects, toys, blankets, and crib bumpers.

Learn more about ways to reduce the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related causes of infant death at Maternal & Child Health Bureau

For more information, please call us at: Tel. No.: (670) 236-8715

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DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

Custodian: Yamamoto, intervenors ignoring court orders

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The court-appointed custodian of cargo ship M/V *Luta*, National Maritime Services, has asked the court to enforce its previous orders requiring Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto and the intervenors in Yamamoto's lawsuit to pay the company \$124,879 in custodial services before the vessel is released.

NMS counsel Sean E. Frink said Yamamoto should pay NMS \$101,223, while the boat's crew should be required to pay at the very least \$7,058.

Frink said that Long Consulting and Norton Lilly should be required to pay \$11,531 and \$5,065, respectively,

before their interests in M/V *Luta* is released.

He pointed out that a court order had stated that all parties in Yamamoto's lawsuit are responsible to share in paying the custodian, in proportion to the value of their claims from the time of the vessel's arrest.

Frink said that NMS has been transparent about its expenses by twice filing detailed invoices for the months of October, November, December in 2016 and for January in 2017.

Frink said all of the parties have been provided an explanation of how NMS' fees and costs were calculated and applied.

Yet, the lawyer pointed out, despite the court's order, and

despite now having complete access to NMS' contract terms and NMS' fees and costs, not one party has provided any sort of objection to any particular fee or cost incurred or estimated by NMS.

Frink said not one party has objected to the court's proposed apportionment schedule.

Frink said the parties instead, in response to NMS' second payment request, provide general objections without providing any evidence as to the alleged unreasonableness.

He said the parties attempt to settle with each other without apparently allowing for (except apparently for the crew members) any sort of

offset in order to ensure NMS is paid for their share of its services before the vessel is released.

"In other words, they ask the court to ignore its prior orders regarding ensuring that NMS will be paid in full before the vessel is released," Frink added.

Yamamoto is suing Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and the owner/operators of M/V *Luta* for allegedly refusing to pay back the \$3.4 million that he put up for the vessel.

After Yamamoto filed the lawsuit last Oct. 25, the U.S. Marshal Service seized the ship. NMS was then appointed as custodian of the vessel.

Aside from the crewmembers, Long Consulting and

Norton Lilly, two others—Rota Terminal and Transfer Co. and the Commonwealth Ports Authority—intervened in the lawsuit to collect payment of services from Luta Mermaid LLC, the owner of

M/V *Luta*.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood has ordered the vessel to be sold for a minimum of \$550,000 on Feb. 8, 2017, at 10am.

Maratita wants 5 pct. tax on gaming revenue

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Vice Speaker Janet U. Maratita (R-Saipan) has introduced a bill that would impose a 5-percent tax on all gaming revenues in the CNMI.

House Bill 20-31 was among the 37 legislative measures that were introduced in yesterday's first session of the House of Representatives on Capital Hill.

HB 20-31 was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means chaired by Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan). HB 20-31, if it becomes a law, would take effect after 24 months or two years.

Maratita's bill, in terms of actual revenues and expenditures, found out that the government actually overspent in the past fiscal years, which amounted from \$800,000 in

the early 1980s to several millions of dollars in the more recent fiscal years.

"Indeed, the CNMI government has been incurring a budget deficit since it first became a Commonwealth in 1978 and then governor Carlos S. Camacho ended his term in 1982 with a \$5 million deficit," Maratita wrote on the HB 20-31.

The deficit jumped to \$87.9 million at the end of fiscal year 2001 and after one year went over \$100 million at \$104.4 million.

She said the new gaming industry is largely un-taxed and it is about time they are taxed in a fair and reasonable manner. "The exclusive license fee that is paid currently is arguably a fair price for a legal monopoly, but even an entity that enjoys exclusive gaming rights should be paying their fair share of taxes."

PAY HIKE

From Page 1

governor opts not to act on it.

PL 19-83 will enact a new base wage schedule and increase the salary ceiling for classified civil service government employees. It also provides a pay hike for mayors, legislators, the lieutenant governor, and the governor.

The measure, however, is on hold until a funding source for the pay hike is identified, either by Torres or the Legislature. All civil service employees have already received their 5-percent salary increase, as it was included in the fiscal year 2017 budget.

Torres, in an interview last Monday, said that funding the pay hike measure is now a legislative issue. "I'm in no hurry to identify funding for their salary [increase]. The funding will be their issue. If the salary is to be increased, I'm sure they are going to find where the money is at."

Hence Demapan's statement that Torres should have vetoed the bill, so they would not have any problems with PL 19-83.

"In the first place, he [Torres] should have vetoed the bill. That way, we don't have to try to figure out the money

for this particular legislation."

"But I don't want to refute what the governor said. I don't want to create any confusion or misunderstanding. I'm just surprised the governor said that. If that's his statement, I would have preferred for him to have vetoed the bill."

"Now it is a law even without his signature. We just need to be creative and find ways on how to fund it," said Demapan.

He pointed out that the law applies only to the new Legislature and a little over \$800,000 is needed to fund the increase for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Lawmakers' salaries will increase from \$39,000 to \$70,000. The Legislature could also appropriate the funding for the salary increase in the fiscal year 2018 budget.

Demapan said the incoming administration of whoever wins as governor, lieutenant governor, and mayors would get their increase in 2019. "Unlike us, we have a new [Legislature] every two years."

PL 19-83 became law on Jan. 20.

At that time, Torres was attending President Donald J. Trump's inauguration. Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) was the acting

governor as Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog was in Palau for President Tommy Remengesau's swearing in.

Demapan authored HB 19-3, with the House passing it on Nov. 29 and the Senate on Dec. 6. It was transmitted to the Governor's Office on Dec. 12 where Torres had 40 days to sign it since it is an appropriations bill. It became PL 19-83 on Jan. 20.

Torres' suggestion

Torres suggested that the Legislature could either reduce their fiscal year 2017 budget or reprogram their appropriation. "In terms of the Legislature and I believe the mayors, those funds for the salaries need to be appropriated."

"It is a different branch of government. If they have funding for it and appropriate it within their branch, I'm okay with it. But to identify funding from outside sources, the answer is no. I will not reduce our government's budget just to accommodate a salary increase for elected officials."

Torres added that since the Legislature has appropriated funds they could reduce it. "But I'm not going to reduce our government's budget and departments for that accommodation."

He also clarified that he and Hocog would not benefit from the law since the increase would take effect in the incoming administration in 2019. "The next governor in the 2019 administration would benefit from this bill. We'll not benefit from the law."

From the ground up

Rep. Vinson F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said the salary increase should have happened from the ground up. "Everybody wants a raise and who would say no to it? I feel that we need to look into the group of employees from under to the upper level."

"It should have started with entry level, then move to mid level, and supervisory level. Bump them up first so everyone can be happy, then we can give ourselves an adjustment in salary. We should not have left everyone behind."

"If we approached it in the right manner, I'm sure all government employees would get their fair share."

HB 19-3 passed the House on a 15-5 vote, with Sablan among the five who opposed the measure, along with fellow Saipan Reps. BJ T. Attao and Edwin K. Propst, and minority leader Edmund S. Villagomez, and former representative Ralph N. Yumul.

The post office remained open yesterday as firefighters have already controlled the blaze by 6am.

Businessman Ting Jiang Tang, also known as Kevin, owns Kevin's Mart, Kevin's Local Café, and Tang Corp. He was at the scene early yesterday morning.

Kevin's Mart opened in August 2012. A movie house used to be located in that building.

Last Dec. 22, a fire of unknown cause burned a semi-concrete apartment on Tupak Street corner Tokcha Avenue in Susupe, displacing several construction workers.

OVERLOADED

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the two-story, semi-concrete building where Kevin's Mart is located.

No one was inside the building as it was closed at the time, witnesses said.

Gersonde said DFEMS received a call from the Department of Public Safety at 3:21am about the fire at Kevin's Mart.

Gersonde said firefighters from Susupe, Garapan, and Kagman fire stations responded to the location and arrived

two minutes after the call.

DFEMS dispatcher then contacted the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting for assistance.

CUC shut off the power in the area and activated the fire hydrants. ARFF firefighters used their water tanker to extinguish the blaze.

Gersonde said preliminary investigation conducted by a DFEMS arson investigation unit revealed that it was a fully engulfed structure fire.

Gersonde said the fire originated in the southwest corner

of the dining area.

On the second floor of the building are furniture and offices for Kevin's and Tang Corp., a construction company, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

An employee said some workers for Kevin's Local Café were about to report to work past 3am when they saw fire in the building.

The employee said police and firefighters stopped the workers from going inside the building.

Firefighters and police officers blocked vehicles travelling on Beach Road from entering Tun Segundo Street.

CBP

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"It is important to me that we all work together to ensure our visitors have an enjoyable experience from the moment they arrive. The CNMI has a good team in MVA and CPA that will be able to come together to address the issues we have experienced, build capacity for future growth, and build our destination brand from the very first step," he added.

Tourism is the main source of revenue for the CNMI. Yet the Commonwealth is plagued by long tourist lines at the immigration booth, with tourists waiting up to three to four hours on certain days of the week.

MVA believes the long lines are detrimental to the industry.

According to an earlier interview with MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, CBP has already been contacted regarding the long lines.

He has since learned that Congress limits the number of CBP officers in the CNMI.

Concepcion said that CBP is only allowed 20 employees in the CNMI due to budgetary issues.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority has been receiving increased complaints from tourists, airlines, and tour companies about the inordinate amount of time being spent in line at U.S. Customs and Border Protection upon arrival at the Saipan International Airport,"

said Concepcion.

Concepcion added that the long immigration lines makes the CNMI, as a beach resort destination, seem "less competitive" compared to other key players in the Asia-Pacific region.

"This is unacceptable for us as a beach resort destination. It is ruining the tourist experience immediately upon arrival and projecting a very damaging image of the Marianas," he said.

Also worth noting is the ongoing renovations at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport.

The airport is currently undergoing several renovations such as the Transportation Security Authority Recapitalization Program for baggage systems as well as runway installations and passenger loading bridge replacements.

The spike in the number of Chinese and Korean tourists is at an all-time high due to the Chinese, Korean, and Russian visa waiver, with Chinese and Korean tourists leading the pack at 206,538 and 200,875 arrivals respectively. Chinese and Korean tourists comprise 81 percent of the total number of arrivals in the CNMI at 501,489.

The last time the total number of tourist arrivals reached the 500,000 mark was more than a decade ago, when Japan was still a strong tourist market for the CNMI.

"Something must be done before it's too late," said Concepcion.

Nine allege food poisoning after eating raw oysters

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Nine persons are suing the owners of Pacific Islands Club Saipan and H-Mart after they allegedly became ill after eating oysters served at PIC's restaurant during a dinner party in 2015.

Peter LG. Pangelinan, Diana M. Sablan, Joseph M. Fejeran, Elsa Nieto, Laing Nieto, Dr. Lorenzo Hocog, Matilde Hocog, Zenaida Camacho, and Nora Sablan are suing

Cop pleads not guilty to beating up wife

A rookie police officer who was arrested for allegedly beating up his wife, who is also a police officer, pleaded not guilty yesterday.

At his arraignment, 38-year-old Ramon Saures Kaipat came with his court-appointed counsel, Rosemond Santos.

Kaipat pleaded not guilty to assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

There will be a bench trial on May 15, 2017.

Kaipat is accused of hitting his wife several times on the head and body last Jan. 13.

Police officers responded to the parking lot across the Truong's Restaurant along Beach

InterPacific Resorts (Saipan) Corp., owner of PIC, and Delta Trading Co. Ltd., owner of H-Mart, for negligence, breach of warranties, violation of Consumer Protection Act, strict liability, and infliction of emotional distress.

Through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, they are suing for damages and demanded a jury trial.

InterPacific Resorts, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, has moved the court to dismiss two of the claims—violation of the

Road in Susupe at 11:18pm after receiving a call about a disturbing the peace incident.

A police detective saw Kaipat on top of his wife on the passenger side seat of a Nissan Altima car. Kaipat was reportedly holding down his wife's head on the seat. The wife was stepping on the car's horn, causing it to honk several times. He also allegedly wrapped his arm around her neck in a headlock. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Consumer Protection Act and emotional distress.

Pierce asserted that several facts in the complaint, if taken as true, support the inference that PIC was unaware that the oysters were unfit (allegedly) for human consumption on Feb. 6, 2015.

Pierce said the plaintiffs also note that the oysters appeared "fresh and wholesome."

This shows, he said, that the "allegedly bad" oysters appeared fine to an observer and that PIC was not aware of any problem until almost a month later.

Fitzgerald stated in the complaint that prior to Feb. 7, 2015, Delta Trading sold to PIC a quantity of raw oysters.

Fitzgerald said that, on Feb. 7, 2015, the plaintiffs, who are all employees of FHP/Take Care or their guests, participated in a company-sponsored dinner party, which took place at PIC's Charley's Cabaret. The party consisted of 25 people.

The next morning, the plaintiffs who ate the oysters

all became violently ill, with stomach pain, vomiting, and diarrhea, he said.

He said the incident was reported to the Department of Public Health, which then investigated and determined that the individuals who became ill were those who ate raw oysters at PIC on Feb. 7, 2015.

Fitzgerald said that two days later, or on Feb. 9, Hocog told PIC's food and beverage manager what happened to ensure that the food poisoning would not happen again.

Fitzgerald said the manager instead became angry, claiming that PIC does not serve bad food, and implicitly accusing plaintiffs of fabricating the incident because the hotel serves hundreds of customers every day and plaintiffs were the only ones to complain.

The lawyer said a second incident of food poisoning involving raw oysters occurred at the PIC shortly after that.

Fitzgerald said that on March 5, 2015, Delta Trading informed PIC that the oysters that were distributed to PIC had been recalled as a result of a request by the Food and Drug Administration.

Fitzgerald said despite being informed by the FDA that there was a serious problem with the oysters that PIC had received from Delta Trading and served to plaintiffs, PIC did not inform plaintiffs so they could confirm the type of contamination they had been exposed to, demonstrating reckless disregard for plaintiffs' health.



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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-17-IFB-004

FEDDOS LANE ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT, PROJECT

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Feddos Lane Road and Drainage Improvement, Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **January 18, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

Breach of Ethical Standard

- **Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. **NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)**
- **Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order. **NMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)**
- **Contingent fees.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. **NMIAC 70-30.3-730**

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **February 7, 2017 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **February 22, 2017** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-004"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, February 27, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, February 27, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@opticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **February 27, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **March 6, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, March 13, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on February 27, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:


- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the Standard Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway projects, PP-03.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.


JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-17-016

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for professional services to prepare a comparative feasibility assessment of water supply treatment alternatives, including desalination (RO and thermal/evaporative). The assessment will compare, at a minimum, location, type, size, cost, and funding options for each alternative to implement, construct and operate.

The scope of work and solicitation package will be emailed upon request, by the CUC Procurement and Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement and Supply Division.

A mandatory pre-proposal conference will be conducted at the CUC Conference Room No. 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building on **February 15, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. A teleconference number will be provided to interested off-island participants to call in and attend.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC RFP-17-016 - Feasibility Study of Water Supply Alternatives for the Island of Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **March 02, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competitive Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information of understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award of a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This bid and the ensuring contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent, awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI business license in compliance with the licensing laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of the contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. Proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 17, 2017**, to Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address at manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to William Gilmore, CUC Deputy Executive Director via email address william.gilmore@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant, via email address at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

CNMI MathCourt rounds out Team CNMI

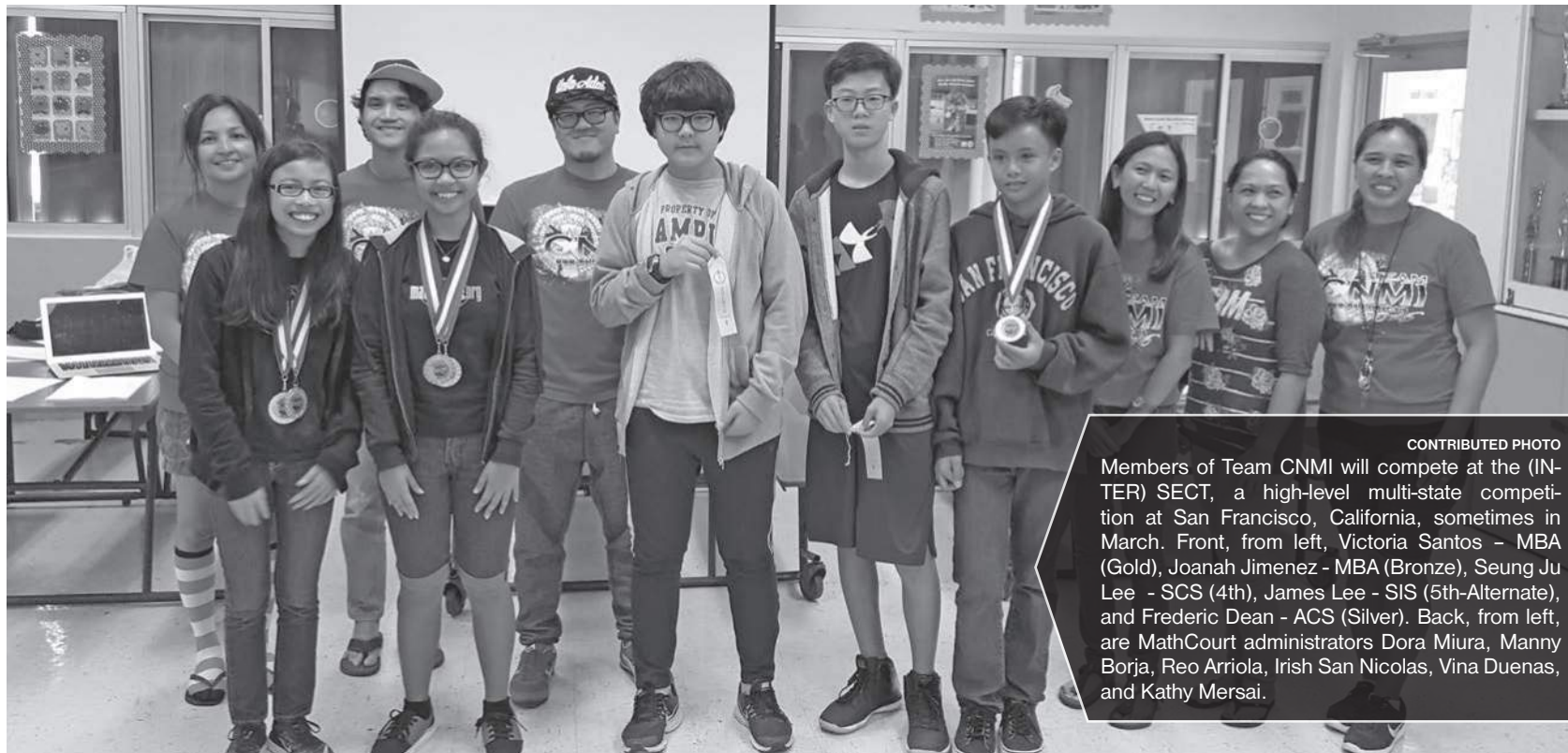
The CNMI MathCourt held its statewide competition for the 6th-8th Grade (Middle School) division this past Saturday, Jan. 28, at Koblerville Elementary School.

After two regular meets in October/December, 50 students qualified and 44 students (including one from Tinian) competed for a spot to be on Team CNMI, who will compete at the (INTER) SECT, a high-level multi-state competition at San Francisco, California, sometimes in March.

Below is a result of the team round (which factors into the overall place of the individual competitor's place):

GOLD TEAM: MBA Team SG

Jeong Min Seo, MBA, 8
Joanah Victoria Jimenez, MBA, 7
Sarah Park, MBA, 7
Victoria Nicole Santos, MBA, 8



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Team CNMI will compete at the (INTER) SECT, a high-level multi-state competition at San Francisco, California, sometimes in March. Front, from left, Victoria Santos - MBA (Gold), Joanah Jimenez - MBA (Bronze), Seung Ju Lee - SCS (4th), James Lee - SIS (5th-Alternate), and Frederic Dean - ACS (Silver). Back, from left, are MathCourt administrators Dora Miura, Manny Borja, Reo Arriola, Irish San Nicolas, Vina Duenas, and Kathy Mersai.

SILVER TEAM: Team One Direction

Frederic Dean Michael

Guintu, ACS, 8
Shengzan Pan, ACS, 6
Enyi Wang ACS, 8
Zhiying Wang, ACS, 7

BRONZE TEAM

Team Jr. Eagles 1
Julie Quan, GCA, 8
Below is the final standing, based on both team and individual round. The top 4 students below is Team CNMI, followed by the 4 alternates.

FINAL INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

GOLD: Victoria Nicole Santos, MBA, 8
SILVER: Frederic Dean Michael Guintu, ACS, 8
BRONZE: Joanah Victoria Jimenez, MBA 7

4th: SeungJu Lee, SCS, 8
5th (ALT): James Lee, SIS, 8
ALT: Zhiying Wang, ACS, 7
ALT: Kevin Tang, ACS, 7
ALT: rinto takahashi, TMS, 8

Catholic School Week commences

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed his third Catholic School Week proclamation on Monday at the Mount Carmel School.

The first time Torres signed the proclamation was in 2015, when he was still lieutenant governor, followed in 2016 when he was the acting governor. On Monday, he signed it as the governor.

CSW is an annual celebration nationwide of Catholic education.

MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero said that Catholic schools are one of the first forms of education in the country, dating back to the 17th century.

"The tradition of public

education is important. On Saipan, the Mercedarian nuns offered the first public classes," he said.

Deleon Guerrero believes Catholic schools on Saipan have contributed to the community by educating former governors and business executives.

"We believe that Catholic education really contributed to the leadership of the community. MCS AlumKnights include leaders in business, government, and the community. We've had governors and business executives that are AlumKnights," he said.

Mount Carmel refers to its alumna as AlumKnights.

"Here in our community, Washington Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP)

is an AlumKnight, so we like to think that [MCS] contributed to the leadership of the island," he added.

CSW is a weeklong celebration across the nation in which every day of the week is devoted to a unique aspect pertaining to Catholic education.

On Saipan, the very first Catholic education establishment was the Our Lady of Mercy Kindergarten back in 1951 and is now known as Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center, while MCS was the second, opening in 1952.

Three schools are participating in this year's weeklong celebration: MCS, Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center, and Rota's Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja.

CUC UPDATES

Scheduled power outage

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2017, from 6am to 11am.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to safely change out wooden power poles to concrete along Flame Tree Road in Dandan. This is an effort to strengthen and harden the integrity of the distribution circuit.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, travelers are encouraged to take alternate routes or to ex-

ercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

Areas to be affected are Dandan Flame Tree Rd. (Gatbo Av., Tasi Ln., Tasi Dr., Fiеста St., Beach Av., and Sand St.), Hawaiian Rock Quarry, and Naftan Road (Obyan Beach Dr., Dela Concepcion Dr., and Santa Margarita P1.).

The Obyan water well will be affected. (CUC)

Scheduled water interruption

There will be a temporary water service interruption for the villages alongside Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road in As Lito, Fina Sisu, As Perdido and parts of Koblerville today, Feb. 1, from 8am to 12pm. Customers in the affected ar-

reas should expect restoration of services soon thereafter.

The purpose of the scheduled water service interruption is to repair a couple leaks on the water main line located on the Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road in As Lito near the Green Consume Market.

Currently, the northbound lane is closed for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. repair crews. Motorists are urged to be cautious in the area and advised to take an alternative route if possible. (PR)

Scheduled water outage

There will be a temporary water service interruption today, Feb. 1, from 8am to 4pm in the Fina Sisu and As Perdido

areas, as the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s contractor, USA Fanter, installs a 4-inch gate valve on the existing 4-inch waterline located at the intersection of Tun Joaquin Doi Road and Chalan Tun Apa Road in Finasisu.

Motorists are urged to be cautious in the area and advised to take an alternative route if possible. (CUC)

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Team SG of Marianas Baptist Academy with coach Tony Flores won the Team Gold award after the statewide competition for the 6th-8th Grade (Middle School) division this past Saturday, Jan. 28, at Koblerville Elementary School.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber membership meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its regularly scheduled general membership meeting today, Feb. 1, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's SandCastle. The luncheon will begin at 11:30am. The meeting will start promptly at noon. Guest speakers include Col. Michael Cardoza from the U.S. Air Force to update members on military plans and activities, and William J. Fife from the Micronesian Legal Services Corp., who will speak about their agency's role, as well as its struggles and successes. (PR)

Calling Tinian homestead applicants

Current Tinian homestead applicants interested in finding out the status of their

homestead applications can contact Lisa Augon, DPL Tinian Office at (670) 433-9245 to book an appointment on Feb. 2 or 3, 2017. (PR)

Meeting of heirs

The heirs of Leonard "Nahdo" Muna Camacho and Maria Campos Camacho will have a meeting on Feb. 2, 2017, at 5:30pm at the Carolinian utt. All heirs of the following are invited: Ignacia Camacho Lifofoi, Soledad Camacho Cabrera, Francisca Camacho Torres, Consolacion Camacho Cabrera, Juan Campos Camacho, Gregorio Campos Camacho, Virginia Camacho Castro, Rufina Camacho Reyes, Antonia Camacho Sablan, and Angelina Camacho Anderson. For more information, call Daling Nanbina at 483-1304 or 323-2636. (PR)

Dela Cruz wants CUC to revisit Leidos report

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Francisco S. Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) wants the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to revisit the recommendations of Leidos Engineering LLC almost two years since the report first came out to see if its power generation source

recommendation is a cost-effective, feasible, and reliable.

Leidos is involved in power grid engineering, energy management and efficiency, smart grid planning, and consulting, utility security, energy asset advisory, critical infrastructure systems, system integration and controls, and environmental sciences.

It is a Fortune 500 company commissioned to make recommendations on what type of power generation source would be viable in the CNMI. Leidos is based in Reston, Virginia. It earned \$5.09 billion in 2015.

Dela Cruz chairs the House Committee on Public Utilities and Communication. Rep. Francisco C. Aguon (R-Saipan) is its vice chair and Reps. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan), Jose I. Itibus (R-Saipan), Edwin P. Aldan (R-Tinian), and Blas Jonathan T. Attao (Ind-Saipan) are its members.

Dela Cruz intends to request an audience with CUC officials for a briefing on the current state of power generation, water, and wastewater. "We're experiencing fast growth, especially on Saipan. Does CUC have the capacity to provide the necessary infrastructure? We want to hear their plans and only CUC can give us the answers," he said.

Dela Cruz said the Leidos report was funded by the federal government and was commissioned to determine

the types of alternative power the CNMI should get into.

"I believe the report was shelved. Why? Did it not meet the standards of what the CNMI needs? Those are questions that I plan to put on the table, why was the report not incorporated?"

The report, which cost the federal government close to \$500,000, had to do with CUC's long-term plans for its structure, most especially its power generation. Alternative sources of energy were included in the Leidos report.

"I believed that the Leidos report made strong recommendations as to what CUC should be looking out for. But unfortunately, those recommendations were maybe ignored. I don't know what really happened and we want to find out," he said. "We want to know if these energy sources are viable for the CNMI."

Dela Cruz said he would also look into the wind turbines that were also funded by the federal government that were just left stored in Koblerville. The wind

turbines, according to Dela Cruz, were given to the Department of Public Works' energy office. "These wind turbines are just lying on the ground in Koblerville."

"I was flying over last week and I looked down and they have four or five wind turbines just lying down on the ground. These are federal funds that we received to put those things in and it was supposed to lessen the energy cost for [the CNMI Public School System]. Now they are just lying on the ground."

He said he wanted to know

more why it was never used, since the wind turbines would supposedly assist public schools on power generation. "They are not working. We put them up there. Everybody is cutting up ribbons and we're seeing all these things just lying there on the ground. Why? Do we have the knowledge and expertise on island to maintain these turbines or are they defective? We can't continue to waste money, most especially federal funds. The Leidos report, we threw it on the side. Then we have new ones for the school and leave it lying on the ground."

NMC opens aquaculture center

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College officially opened Monday its new aquaculture development center with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The center, which will teach CNMI farmers how to cultivate fish, will be under the college's Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service program, or CREES.

The new center used to be the CREES main building. Its roof was torn off by Typhoon Soudelor in 2015.

NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez said the aquaculture center could play a big role in the growing economy of Saipan.

"We are excited to have all of you here this morning to help us open the [aquaculture center] that aims to build and expand the CNMI's aquaculture industry so that it can develop, thrive, and become a major pillar of [Saipan's] economic stability," said Fernandez.

According to Mike Ogo, NMC resident aquaculture specialist, the center is currently

focused on rabbit fish, or *mañahak* in the vernacular, due to its popularity in the CNMI.

"We coordinated with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and secured funding from various resources to make what you see here today," said Ogo.

He said there are only two entities doing research on this particular fish in the whole world.

"This center would be the second of its kind to research rabbit fish, with the other facility situated in French Polynesia," he said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres praised the center's capacity to sustain the economic growth of the island.

"Not only is this program viable, the program gives us a new business [ideas] and allows other communities to look into investments," said Torres.

The center also addresses the demand for fresh fish year-round.

"[Rabbit fish] is seasonal, so with the CNMI being able to produce this type of fish year-round makes it even better," said Torres.

US settles discrimination and wrongful termination lawsuit

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, announced yesterday that the United States, on behalf of Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, settled the lawsuit *Ballard v. Mabus*.

The plaintiff claimed that the Navy created a hostile work environment because of sexual harassment, age and race discrimination, and retaliated against him for accusing a co-worker, who had worked at the facility for many decades, of sexual harassment and another co-worker of age and race discrimination.

The Navy's internal investigation found that the allegations against the co-workers were false and that no sexual harassment occurred. The Navy also determined that plaintiff's substandard work performance warranted termination of his employment during the probationary period. Plaintiff worked for the Navy for a total of about four

months.



After a summary judgment hearing before the District Court, plaintiff's claim of a hostile work environment based on sexual harassment and age and race discrimination was dismissed with prejudice.

Because of the short time period between plaintiff's allegations against his co-workers and his dismissal by the Navy, the issue of possible retaliation remained to be resolved by a trial.

Recognizing that trial would require the United States to bring in witnesses who are now serving around the world, the United States entered into a settlement agreement on Jan. 28, 2017, to resolve the one remaining retaliation claim.

Settlement negotiations were assisted by magistrate judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr., at the U.S. District Court. The settlement resolves all claims by the plaintiff.

The case was handled by assistant U.S. attorney Mikel Schwab. (PR)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB17-TDLNR-085-CIF TINIAN

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 01, 2017 TIME: 9:30A.M.

**"PURCHASE OF A TRACTOR MOWER WITH 3 ATTACHMENTS
FOR TINIAN DEPARTMENT OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS
MAYOR OF TINIAN & AGUIGUAN

/S/ GUILLERMO C. BORJA
RESIDENT DEPARTMENT HEAD, TDLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S




COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION


Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission") hereby gives notice that the Commission will be meeting with the House Standing Committee on Gaming on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at the Commission's Office in Gualo Rai, Saipan. The meeting is to meet and update the Honorable members of the House Committee on Gaming on the duties and responsibilities of the Commission and to provide the Committee updates on the status of the Saipan Casino industry.

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session with the House Committee on Gaming. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman



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is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant positions:

(1) ACCOUNTANT - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
High school diploma/GED required, College degree in related field, highly preferred. Four (4) years progressive experience in accounting, preferably from a high volume hotel, AA or BA in either accounting or in the hospitality finance is preferred. Strong math and computer skills, particularly with spreadsheets, knowledgeable with accounting software are required. Must have an eye for detail; strong time management and organizational skills are essential. Must be able to work under pressure and can work a flexible schedule including week-ends and holidays when required. Must go through a pre-employment drug test.

(1) IT TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST
High school diploma/GED required, College degree in related field highly preferred. Advanced experience in the configuration, installation repair and troubleshooting of computer hardware, network switches, network line connection, routers, Ruckus A/P, phone lines, phone units and other computer peripherals. Advanced experience in networking phone system and security camera. Advanced experience with desktop operating systems and MS applications. Advanced experience with skills in problem identification and problem resolution techniques. Ability to prioritize tasks with long term projects and work in a fast paced environment with minimum supervision, knowledge in property management POS, PBX system, web application, and SAP, must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends, holidays and overtime if necessary. Working conditions involve lifting and transporting moderately heavy objects such as computers and peripherals. Must go through a pre-employment drug test.

UPHOLSTER
High school diploma/GED required, Two (2) years experience as an Upholster with above average knowledge in upholstery making, designing and conceptualizing, knowledge on stitching by hand or with the use of big sewing machines, repairing or redesign wrecked upholsters, must recognize different methods of upholstery making both in household and automobile, be able to communicate with the customers well and easy to understand what they want, must be meticulous with his/ her work, must be goal oriented and can meet deadlines. Must go through a pre-employment drug test.

(30) COOKS
High school diploma/GED required, one (1) year experience as a cook in, international cuisine is required and preferably from a full service hotel or high volume restaurant, able to read and follow standardized recipes, strong knowledge of proper food handling procedures, must have problem solving skills, be self-motivated and organized, must be able to work under pressure and adaptable to last minute work preparation, able to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays, able to work as part of a team in a busy kitchen atmosphere, must go through a pre-employment drug test.

(5) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Two (2) years experience as a general maintenance worker is required, must be able to work independently, must be able to move, carry and lift up to 50 pounds, must be a team player and has good interpersonal skills, able to work flexible schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) CARPENTER
One (1) year carpentry experience or any equivalent combination of experience and/or education from which comparable knowledge, skills and abilities have been achieved. Incumbent in this classification is exposed to restricted movement, extreme temperature and intense noise inherent to carpentry position. Must be able to lift and carry objects up to 45 pounds. Must be able to work flexible schedule including week-ends and holidays.

(1) SUPERVISOR, CARPENTER
Two (2) years work experience in Carpentry, in a supervisory level is required, from a high volume hotel or building complex industry preferred, must be able to lift and carry objects up to 45 pounds, must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

(1) DEMI CHEF
Two (2) years work experience as a Demi Chef in a high volume restaurant or hotel is required. Must be able to work under extreme pressure, stand on feet for long periods of time and work in a heated environment, able to work nights, early morning hours, weekends and holidays.

Application forms may be obtained and submitted to our Security Office located on the South Wing of Fiesta Resort & Spa. Deadline for submission of applications to be considered is February 6, 2017.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Disability network undergoes recovery workshop

The CNMI's Disability Network Partners, otherwise known as the DNP, in collaboration with PeerLink National Technical Assistance Center, kicked off a two-week long certification training program for Peer Recovery Specialists on Tuesday.

The training is being conducted by Robyn Priest out of PeerLink Technical Assistance Center through a grant from the U.S. DHHS/Substance

Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, in support of SAMHSA's Strategic Initiative for Recovery Support, which promote peer support and social inclusion of individuals with or in recovery from mental and substance use disorders in the community.

Participants in the training were vetted through an application process, requiring, among other things, that the

"individual must be willing to publicly identify as a person living with a mental illness, or substance abuse history in order to model the reality of recovery and wellness."

"At a very basic level, as I understand it, the idea is that people with 'lived experience' are better able to empathize with those who may be new to the recovery process and therefore provide a unique,

more relatable level of support," said NMPASI executive director Jim Rayphand.

The program includes among its values that, "Telling our stories is the beginning of recovery and wellness. While honoring the peer's perspective at its core, we seek to create an open, accepting place that is collaborative, respectful, and gives hope for the future."

"Peer support is a system

of giving and receiving help founded on key principles of respect, shared responsibility, and mutual agreement of what is helpful. Peer support is not based on psychiatric models and diagnostic criteria. It is about understanding another's situation emphatically through the shared experience of emotional and psychological pain" (Mead, Hilton & Curtis, 2001).

For more information on

the WRAP training and/or Peer Support Worker training, contact any of the DNP partners including, but not limited to the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, inc. at (670) 235-7273/4 or at www.nmpasi.org; or the Council on Developmental Disabilities at (670) 664-7000; University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at 234-3690. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Kaye Christian, chairperson of the Coalition for Anti-Stigma Against Mental Illness; Greg Borja, chairperson of the State Behavioral Health Council /NMPASI projects specialist; and Robyn Priest, PeerLink lead project coordinator for WRAP/peer support training, during WRAP training at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Angie Wheat, V.O.I.C.E.S. (Saipan chapter) member and Center for Living Independently member; Joan Taitano, NMPASI board president/State Behavioral Health Council vice chair; and Lydia Igitol, director of Center for Living Independently.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WRAP training participants share a common desire to use their experiences to help others with their recovery and wellness.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Felix Ulloa, Council on Developmental Disabilities and V.O.I.C.E.S (Rota chapter) member, looks on with other participants at the WRAP training.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Robyn Priest, PeerLink lead project coordinator, facilitates discussion at the WRAP training held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Jan. 31, 2017, to Feb. 2, 2017.

Flying through forensics

The Grace Christian Academy Eagles from Kindergarten to 12th grade continue to fly through forensics as they compete for the last monthly qualifying competition in January except for the National Speech & Debate Association, which has one more competition in February. Even with a lesser number of competitors in all levels, GCA competitors still won several awards in the January competition.

Igitol: Take advantage of NMTI programs

Rep. Alice Igitol (R-Saipan) attended the Historic Preservation's sponsored community meeting held at the Tanapag Youth Center. The focus of the meeting was the ancestral bones that were dug up at the casino site in Garapan and the site for its proper burial ceremony. The Historic Preservation Office is seeking public comments and ideas on



Igitol

the site to re-bury the remains. Igitol is encouraging the public to attend HPO public meetings to share recommendations and other concerns.

Other information that was presented at the meeting is the Northern Marianas Trade Institute. According to Russ Manglona, NMTI is ready to empower residents with the necessary work skills for job placement. NMTI provides training in the culinary arts, construction trades and automotive tech.

Igitol is informing residents that the culinary arts program of NMTI has a loan program that will help students cover the cost of tuition, books, and other material that will be used throughout the training period. NMTI also offers incentives to students who complete the culinary arts program—a set of knives worth \$400 for use at work. Additionally, NMTI has a job referral and placement program for students who complete the program.

NMTI also has a loan payment plan. For every year that an NMTI graduate works in the private sector, \$1,000 will be written-off from their student loan.

Igitol wishes to inform all residents in Precinct 4 who are interested to enroll in the program to contact 664-8806 for assistance. To date, 99 percent of NMTI graduates are currently employed. (PR)

Amanda Haas, GCA 4th grade teacher and coach who has been actively involved in the Primary Grades Forensic Conference, said that all her students who competed at least twice in the monthly competitions all qualified to compete in the PGFC regional competition, which will be held at GCA in March.

Miss Amanda, as her students call her, has judged all the PGFC competitions.

She said she has enjoyed getting involved in PGFC as both a classroom coach and a judge. It has been a huge learning experience for her because this year is the first year she has ever participated in a competition like this one. She has learned so much from judging or even just keeping time, and getting to watch not only GCA students, but students from other schools as well.

“It has been amazing to see how the students take pride in their talents and abilities, and

compete with confidence. It is also encouraging to see progress from competition to competition, as the students continue practicing and note their own successes. I have celebrated their victories silently behind my computer screen at home, when the results are posted — but my favorite is when I get to see the bright faces of my students and we are able to celebrate together,” she said.

PRIMARY GRADES FORENSIC CONFERENCE

KINDER-2ND GRADE DIVISION

Humorous Interpretation B
Akira Ito, 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking A
Mariska Badal, 1st Place
Sofia Cariaso, 4th Place

Impromptu Speaking B
Arielle Mae Matutino, 2nd Place
Min Su Andy Kim, 5th Place

Readers Forum Masters B

Aiyana Victory Fatialofa, 3rd Place

Choral Speaking A
Mariska Badal, 3rd Place
Sofia Cariaso, 3rd Place
Hannah Gabaldon, 3rd Place
Caroline Chuyao Sun, 3rd Place

3RD-5TH GRADE DIVISION

Dramatic Interpretation A
Tae Hee Kim, 3rd Place
Jennifer Woo, 5th Place

Humorous Interpretation A
Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, 1st Place
Serim Woo, 2nd Place

Humorous Interpretation B
Sena Woo, 2nd Place
William Matthew Cano, 3rd Place
Azriel Fatialofa, 4th Place

Duo Interpretation A
Moir Grace Ernest, 1st Place
Seungeun Olivia Ha, 1st Place

Impromptu Speaking A
Sena Woo, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speaking B
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 1st Place
Moir Grace Ernest, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speaking C
Serim Woo, 2nd Place

Angieleysha Marie Punzalan, 3rd Place
Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 4th Place

Readers Forum A
Earl Jean Jonathan Pantaleon, 3rd Place

Readers Forum Masters A
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 1st Place

Readers Forum Masters B
Tae Hee Kim, 1st Place
Jennifer Woo, 2nd Place
Azriel Fatialofa, 3rd Place
Alyssa Kim, 5th Place

Readers Forum Masters C
Yellena Sarang Kim, 3rd Place
Rafael Busby, 5th Place

Teachers/coaches:
K5 Teacher, Sheryl Joy Prieto
1st Grade Teacher, Courtney Poppinga
2nd Grade Teacher, Miriam Dilse
3rd Grade Teacher, Rosanna Lopez
4th Grade Teacher, Amanda Haas
5th Grade Teacher, Leah Garfil
PGFC Coach/Coordinator, Esther Manzano
Judges/volunteers: Courtney Poppinga, Amanda Haas, Marilyn Aldan, Joan Taitano, Desolie Calayo,

NATIONAL JUNIOR SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION 6TH-8TH GRADE

Lincoln Douglas Debate
Na Lee Christy Lee, 3rd Place

Duo Interpretation A
Haeun Emily Lee, 2nd Place
Gayeon Angela Kim, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speech B
Na Lee Christy Lee, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speech C
Matthew Gabriel Ernest, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speech E
Jonathan Lee, 2nd Place

Extemporaneous Speech A
Na Lee Christy Lee, 1st Place
Anthony Jacob Camacho, 3rd Place

Poetry Reading Masters B
Haeun Emily Lee, 3rd Place

Poetry Reading Masters C
Michelle Ji Yeon Jeon, 3rd Place

Prose Reading Masters C
Haeun Emily Lee, 2nd Place
Gayeon Angela Kim, 4th Place

Prose Reading Masters D
Jonathan Lee, 4th Place

NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION 9TH-12TH GRADE

Dramatic Interpretation A
Yujin Lee, 1st Place

Dramatic Interpretation B
Tae Yong Kim, 1st Place
Sein Woo, 5th Place

Original Oratory A
Minna Natsuko Ito, 1st Place

US Extemporaneous Speech
Martin Angelo Pangilinan, 4th Place
Arvin Dayao, 5th Place

International Extemporaneous Speech
Lanz Jabez Victoria, 4th Place

Impromptu Speech A
Tae Yong Kim, 5th Place

Impromptu Speech C
Minna Natsuko Ito, 1st Place
Arvin Dayao, 2nd Place
Johnny Jin, 5th Place

Impromptu Speech D
Minna Natsuko Ito, 1st Place
Arvin Dayao, 2nd Place
Johnny Jin, 5th Place

Commentary
Arvin Dayao, 4th Place
Lanz Jabez Victoria, 5th Place

Poetry Reading Masters A
Tae Yong Kim, 1st Place

Poetry Reading Masters B
Yujin Lee, 1st Place

Prose Reading Masters A
Sumin Melody Woo, 2nd Place

NJSDA/NSDA coach/coordinator
Grace Duran
Competition registrar Esther Manzano
Judges: Pastor Connie Chandler, Joan Taitano, Pastor Daniel Dilse, Miriam Dilse



Grace Christian Academy's Primary Grades Forensic Conference January 2017 winners have their picture taken at the school's Rev. Raymond S. Kinsella Library.



Grace Christian Academy's National Junior Speech & Debate Association and National Speech & Debate Association January 2017 winners have their picture taken at the school's Rev. Raymond S. Kinsella Library.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Donald Trump has been president one week. Don't write him off already.

President Donald Trump's strange first week on the job invites over-the-top criticism. The idea that his vanity is so powerful that he has convinced himself—absent any evidence—that he actually won the Nov. 8 popular vote, and that he wants to launch a costly and pointless investigation into this theory, is hard to fathom. Trump's casual use of Twitter to provoke a fight with Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto and prompt him to cancel a scheduled meeting hints at chaos ahead in foreign policy. Trump's Twitter threat to “send in the feds” if Chicago can't reduce gun violence—citing statistics just aired on Fox News—suggests an impulsiveness and a need for attention that is scary in a commander-in-chief.

But we choose to respect the office he's in and not to act like detached or angry critics. Trump's actions over the next four years will affect every American and probably billions more people as well. Our goal is to try to get the president to operate in a more constructive way. Fuming over his behavior and sputtering about his refusal to operate within traditional norms and boundaries accomplishes nothing.

Politico's recent interview with three of Trump's biographers offered many reasons for concern. For starters, Trump's recent behavior is not some aberration produced by the pressure of the spotlight and the presidency. “It seems like the exact same M.O. that we saw throughout his career, throughout the campaign, and now,” said Gwenda Blair. “This is all about him completely dominating the news cycles—the use of Twitter to distract from any real questions, emphasis on loyalty, vituperation toward anyone he sees who is disloyal or doesn't toe his line, and his emphasis on conflict, the notion of setting people against each other. Now it's countries against each other. It's news organizations against each other.”

Added Tim O'Brien, “He's been unable to find a clean division between his own emotional needs and his own insecurities and simply being a healthy, strategically committed leader who wants to parse through good policy options.”

Yet O'Brien also made a point that offers hope for America: While Trump may hate “the establishment, he also desperately wants to be approved by it.” And both he and Blair appeared pleasantly surprised by the heft of some of Trump's high-powered Cabinet appointments.

So instead of anguishing over all of Trump's transgressions, this editorial board will focus on the substance of his administration's actions. When it comes to foreign policy, we hope the president heeds Defense Secretary James Mattis and Secretary of State nominee Rex Tillerson, who

See DONALD on Next Page

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Five rules for talking with the other side

Remember Christine O'Donnell, the Delaware woman who oddly found herself, during a U.S. Senate run in 2010, needing to assure voters she wasn't a witch?

O'Donnell, with a push from the (then-new) Tea Party, upset establishment icon Mike Castle in the GOP primary.

That year, while working for an NPR radio station, I organized voter forums across Delaware to generate questions for a TV debate between O'Donnell and her general election opponent, Chris Coons.

Looking back, it occurs to me those events might have been the first time, and one of the few ever since, when Tea Party activists sat down with NPR liberals for a civil discussion.

From one such night in Dover, Del., two images stick: Tea Partiers arriving early for the forum, clutching pocket Constitutions in their hands—and those same folks lingering afterward in the parking lot, chatting away with the NPR types, fervent but friendly.

Imagine that—a lively, insult-free exchange between folks who vote differently.

It can happen. It should happen more.

It has to happen if we are serious about keeping the Republic, which ol' Ben Franklin warned might prove hard work.

As co-founder of the Penn Project for Civic Engagement, I've spent 20-plus years seeking to help people talk about things that matter, in ways that lead to solutions, not gridlock, to flashes of understanding, not thunderous rancor.

We Americans are in a tough spot, reluctant seat-mates in a leaky boat. We probe scars from a brutal election, suffer a plague of fake news, indulge bad habits on social media.

Even proven techniques of civil dialogue may falter in this toxic environment, I fear. Still, for what it's worth, let me offer five road-tested tips on how to talk fruitfully with someone who voted the other way on Nov. 8.

Don't seek to convert or win.

Seek to understand. The merchants of division don't want you to grasp this, but millions who voted for the other team are nice, solid, ethical people whom you'd feel fine about having next door or at the next desk. If you can leave a conversation with a better sense of why such a person voted in a way that pains you, then that's a real win. For you, for the other person (who probably needs to learn the same thing) and for the odds of saving this democracy. (Consider this pragmatic point: If you ever hope some day to convert a “wrong” voter to your views, best to begin with an olive branch, not a bludgeon. Name calling is not moral courage; it's name calling.)

Start with story.

Not with positions, arguments or labels. Tell me a bit about yourself is a more productive opening bid than: How could you vote for someone who is out to ruin America? Perhaps ask a spe-

By **CHRIS SATULLO**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

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cific question in the vein of “Tell me about a time when ...” or “Tell me a story that sums up for you why you believe X.”

Frame questions as invitations, not confrontations.

The goal here is not to skirt problematic issues. But the way you put such a topic on the table can make all the difference. It's one thing to say, “How could you vote for such a racist?” It's another thing to say, “Just personally, I found what X did about Y kind of troubling. How did you react to that and think your way through it?”

Avoid “fact wars.”

I'm a journalist. The notion that facts matter is core for me. But I know just telling people they're wrong, then flinging facts in their faces, does not move opinion. Brandished this way, facts bounce off mental frames, leading people to cling ever more fiercely to their own “facts.” In the era of digital bubbles, this sadly grows more true. What I'm about to suggest won't work with truly locked-down minds. But it might help if a person is even slightly open to new information. Try: “I'm not sure that fact you're citing is really true, but put that aside for now. Here's what I'd love for you to talk about: Why this assertion is so crucial to you.” Then ask: “If I could show you solid evidence this isn't a fact, can you imagine that changing your thinking at all?”

Admit doubt.

First, to yourself. Second, to the other person. Only the purely partisan maintain that fact, logic, merit and virtue attach only to their team. My Penn colleague Harris Sokoloff often urges warring parties to mull these paired questions: “Is there any part of the other side's position, no matter how small, that makes sense to you?” and “Is there any part of your own position that bothers you even a little, that's a pebble in your shoe?”

That's it. Five tips for talking with the other team. I understand they won't work with everyone. The world, alas, has its stone-headed partisans and bigots. But, guess what, the ranks of those who voted the other way last Nov. 8 includes millions who aren't hopeless. You could talk with them.

Armed with these suggestions, why not give it a try?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Mabiliban Promesa

Nai duru man-esalau gi seŋsoŋg, mana' paha "biba" yan manadan promesa para uma-adelanta linala' i tautau.

Lau dispues de man-halum, matulaika i "biba" guatu gi "biliba" `nai silensiu ma-appueba hatsadan sueddun niha, finenina.

Mayotti dididi' na pugi para empleau siha gi gobietnu, seru subida para i mangaige siha gi praihet. Magahet na makompli "biliba" `nai ma-ayudan maisa siha 80 pot sientu na hatsada!

Gi hilu' este na chatdisposision, tatnai mabisita i hospitat para umaketuŋgu' haf sessu pa'gu problemaña. Desde alacha, megai manma-atmiti lau mañaga todo dia gi ER sa' taya' kuattun hospitat!

Dañkulu este na diskuidu gi asuntun hinemlu' publiku. Lau guaha kampu para umahatsa sueddun niha. Na ti magahet na este na nesessidat miyon pot miyon pesus ha nesessita para mas kuattu gi hospitat-ta?

Kau magahet na sumen taya' konsensian miyu na in' lañgag umupus este na chinatsaga gi hinemlu' tautau-ta? Dispues, lamegai lokue fondu ha nesessita i PSS lugat edukasion mas ke 15 mit na famaguon-ta. Haf' mohon? Pat in' letkin "not yet, al-ready" ta' lu este siha na presisu gi linala' publiku?

Inagañg I Saina

Hu e'ekuŋgog un' pale esplikasioña pot finattun i Saina gi kantun tasin iya Galilea. Ha soda' dos peskadot ni ha faisen para umadalalag.

Ha eslika si pale haf' i Saina na peskadot ha ayeg. Era man-mipasensia, manatma, antau gi man-repara, mafaman solu minagahet, matuŋgu mangotden haguat yan ŋgai'an `nai para u dagau kotdetña.

Era, debi i inayegña kumu primet disipulu u fan motmut pinasensia gi finana' guen pot i Saina, manatma yan fitme manhassu, antau man-repara, taya' mas ha diseseha ke minagahet, yan man-menhalum man-mamesa ŋgai'an `nai mauleg ma-kuentusi i linahya.

Gi bandan fotmat na peska, sin pinasensia siempre lamegai besis `nai un' haguat maisa hau ni broñkomu. I mauleg na peskadot antau gi este na offisiu kontodu midision katnada.

I mensahe, fuera de para tapega papa' tinane'ta pot para tatatiye i Saina, debi tafañaunau gi machalapun dottrinaña gi hilu' pinasensia, manatma, minagahet, antau na rinipara yan propiu na inapagat gi tautau siha. Tutuhun gi famaguon miyu!

Yangin ta kriansa famaguon-ta linala' espirituat siempre u fan mauleg na sudadanu dispues de madiŋgu i pettan sanmena.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



Gaige tinituhun pisun kuttura yan tradision gi halum guma' familia! I gima' familia tutuhun edukasion kada patgon desde li-ŋguahe, dottrina pat che'chu' echu tautau.

Ripot: Dos kompanian globus pumesa kinalamten Imperial Pacific Inc. ni fumofondu mahatsan Best Sunshine. Mampos tagpapa' na gradu mana' e IPI dispues magu' ot tatte aplikasion umayau fondu.

Fuera de ha luñu' este na kinalamten guine, i dos ripot esta siempre mataitai ni otu siha inbette-dot (investors). Dudayu' kau u mapetsigi kumonsige mumueba planun niha para iya Marianas. `Nai baba gradun un' dañkulu na kompania taya' presisu i pumalu na umachansa siha guine. Man-hanau guatu otu siha lugat `nai sin ditension ma-upus iya Marianas.

`Nai fontun kinalamten praihet, u guaha mohon mas cho'chu' para i tautau-ta siha? Estague' i dichu kuestion!

Mediu Ochenta: In' hassu `nai machuchuda' salape' guine gi mediu ochenta siha na sakan? In' hassu na kontodu Congresson iya America tachoma' man-na'e ayudun fondu sa' mansosopbla hit? Dispues, mapua ya mafondu batko-ta `nai todun man-mamadesi?

Puede ma'ase' i Saina sa' kontra achu' mattiŋgan para ta sufa' ta' lu desde pa'gu na sakan. Ya lafotte i mamamaila' sa' maliŋgu sensian giheftau ginen Congresson iya America. Kada ratu hit siempre mana' fan dimu man-kottesiha boluntariamenti man-e'esalau "Ti baifan ta' lu yan bachigu' amariyu!"

Lai I Tanu': Manmanhula' 31 na offisiat publiku para umatatiye lai i tanu' siha. Sumasaunau prinihibin lai interes yan disposision fondun publiku.

I primet lai inapprueban i tautau `nai maprohibi offisiat publiku mañoneg maseha haf' na aktu `nai hana' fan miresi familiaña fondun inapasita aduana. Estague' masusedi i kausag-hu kontra si Biktot Hokog yan MV Luta gi \$400,000 ni masaulag supin tasi.

I segundu, guaha disposision lai konstitusion iya Marianas pot disposision fondun publiku ni debi u inapprueba ni lehislatura. Ti manu ha' kaprichon niha sa' gaige lai konstitusion pot este na disposision.

Puru che'chu' hasupag `nai los uttimu i publiku ni man-apa-pase aduana (tax) matalaŋga gi kontribusioña. Lache este ya debi i kotte yan offisinan Attorney General umapetsigi manana' lun \$400,000 na fondun publiku!

Hineŋge: Guaha gi entre hita fumagcha'e pinadesin ti amtiyun na chenot. Lau hu hoŋge na ginen i taihinekog na gineftau i Saina siña hana' maguŋ pinadesisi-hu. Guiya este i hineŋge gi taihinekog na `nina' siñan i Saina.

Silensiu kada oga'an antes de bai chogue maseha haf' na fina' obligasion hu tucha finenina nobena-hu. Tatnai hu upus este na tinayuyot, diariu desde 1987 na sakan. Taya' mas gefsaga na siñienten trañkilida ke `nai un' pega ha'animu enteru gi disposioña. Tatnai chathinassuyu' desde ayu na tiempu! Inaŋgog-hu gi Saina i mas asegurai!

DONALD

From Page 10

came across as thoughtful and practical in their Senate nomination hearings. When it comes to the economy, we hope the president heeds Wilbur Ross, his nominee for commerce secretary, a man who became a billionaire on the strength of his brilliance and willingness to be unorthodox.

Donald Trump has already been a president like no other, and he will continue to be. But if he wants Americans' approval, feeding them reality TV-style outrage and bombast is a hollow diet. Americans don't want a destructive president.

Our goal is to help Trump figure this out.

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High-skilled legal immigration needed in US

President Donald Trump seems intent on tackling immigration early in his administration. Vox.com obtained leaked drafts of four executive orders that give us some idea of what the president is planning.

Three of the draft orders focus on long-time Republican priorities of reducing illegal immigration, keeping out supposedly dangerous refugees and reducing welfare payments to legal immigrants. These orders will undoubtedly be controversial, and probably won't do much good for the country—refugees tend not to be dangerous, illegal immigration has already gone into reverse, and legal immigrants tend not to use many welfare benefits.

But it's the last order that has me worried the most. Trump plans to curtail several programs for high-skilled legal immigration. Currently, H-1B holders—skilled workers who are sponsored by companies, and often end up becoming permanent residents—are allowed work visas for their spouses. Trump's draft would reverse that, making it much harder for skilled workers to maintain a good standard of living in the U.S. The order would also make it harder for foreign students to work while in the U.S., and make it somewhat harder for H-1B workers to get green cards. QuickTake Immigration Reform

The H-1B program certainly needs reform. Because foreign guest workers using this visa could be forced to leave if they lose their jobs, they are tied to their employers. That reduces their bargaining power, which holds down their wages. Since American workers have to compete with those guest workers, these visas also probably reduce wages for high-skilled Americans. That's why labor groups have long opposed the program.

Let's hope Trump's limits on H-1Bs are only a prelude to an overhauled system that gives lots of green cards to high-skilled immigrants, much as Canada and Australia do. Green cards would allow high-skilled immigrants to switch between employers, taking the pressure off native-born skilled workers. In fact, Trump has promised to implement a Canada-style immigration policy before, and the draft order does include some encouraging language on this front. It calls for the establishment of a committee or commission to "recommend changes to the immigration laws to move toward a merit-based system."

But besides that one very encouraging line, the order is shot through with rhetoric about the need to protect American workers by limiting the activities of guest workers. It orders the secretary of the Labor Department to "initiate an investigation of the extent of any injury to U.S. workers caused by the employment in the United States of foreign workers" using H-1Bs or similar visas. Similar language is repeated several times throughout the draft.

In principle this is fine. We should want to protect the wages and jobs of American workers. And because the limitations of the H-1B program could theoretically cause harm to the native-born, the program should be reexamined and amended. But in general, the real danger to U.S. workers from these programs is slight. Most economic research shows that high-skilled guest workers don't harm American wages that much, and in some

By NOAH SMITH

Bloomberg View



Noah Smith is a Bloomberg View columnist. Readers may email him at nsmith150@bloomberg.net.

cases may even raise U.S. workers' pay. The latter could happen if H-1B workers complement American employees more than they compete with them.

The danger here is that Trump's team will latch onto less reputable research showing that guest workers have large negative effects. In economics, as in any social science, it's always possible to dig up one paper that differs from the consensus. If Trump's appointees are highly suspicious of foreign workers to begin with, they will undoubtedly be able to cherry-pick research to support the idea that guest workers cause great harm.

That may lead to a broad curbing of skilled-worker visas, which—unless replaced with a genuine skills-based immigration system—would deprive many U.S. tech companies of their lifeblood. And the general anti-immigrant tone of some of these executive-order drafts could exert a chilling effect that keeps skilled immigrants away from U.S. shores even without explicit curbs.

That would be very bad. The U.S.'s comparative advantage is in knowledge work and research. American high-tech companies, top universities and thriving technology clusters make the nation the world's economic laboratory. The prosperity generated by the U.S.'s world-class tech industries and research centers flows throughout society, raising property values, supporting local businesses of all kinds, ensuring that the U.S. will be wealthier than countries like China for the foreseeable future. U.S. research superiority also helps make the American military the most formidable in the world.






Limiting high-skilled immigration would threaten all that. If foreign engineers are unable to work in the U.S., other countries will become the world's research laboratory, undermining the economy in the long run. The disaster of losing American flagship industries would be at least as bad as the flight of U.S. manufacturing to China.

Research, engineering and technology are what the U.S. does for a living, much of it performed by immigrants or visiting foreign workers. We can't afford to stop. The best solution is to move toward a Canada-style system that gives green cards—true immigration—to people who can come power the nation's science and engineering dominance. And along with that system, Trump and his appointees should adopt immigrant-friendly rhetoric aimed at telling the best and the brightest that they're welcome in the U.S.

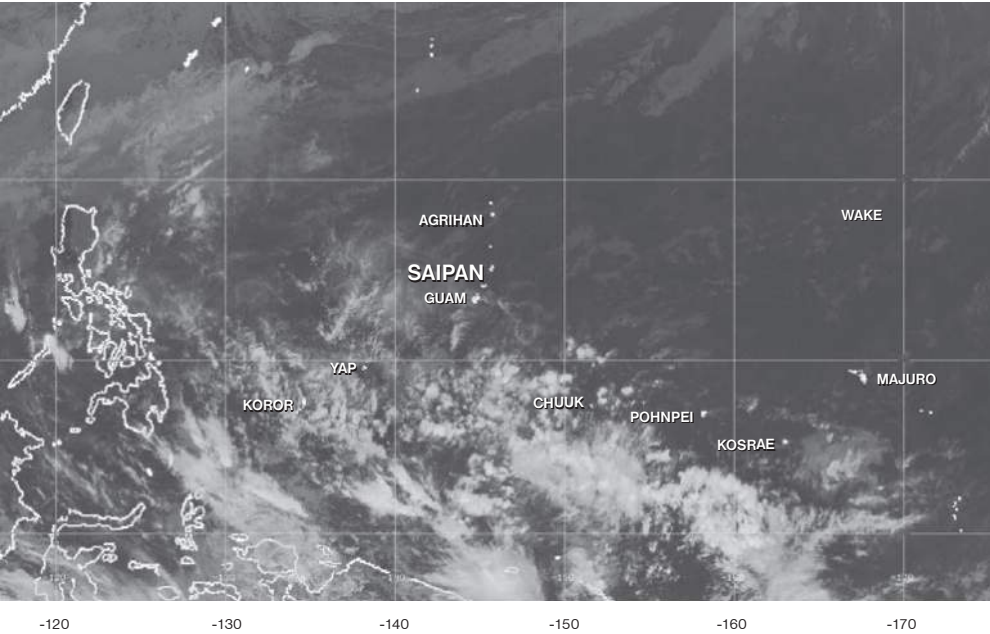
I hope the president does the right thing for the country and the economy.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲86° ▼76°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:50 AM, MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Dry season trade-wind pattern will be the rule through the forecast period for the Marianas. GFS depicts a shear line coming down from the north to around Anatahan. So the far northern Marianas could get some extra wind and weather from that. The forecast zones, however, should have continued isolated tradewind showers continue through the period. Main forecast problems are timing of cloudiness and wind direction. Northeast winds today are supposed to gradually become southeast around mid-week next week, 6 or 7 days from now. They could then become downright squirrely with southwest and even northwest directions possible. It could end up being similar to the previous system which blew a shear line all the way south of Guam. Combined seas remain fairly constant through the forecast period, with perhaps a decline of at most 1 foot, from 7 to 9 down to perhaps 6 to 8 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Showers	84° / 76°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	83° / 78°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	77° / 66°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	41° / 25°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	72° / 63°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	76° / 65°	
London	Showers	52° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	70° / 49°	
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 75°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	75° / 55°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	77° / 65°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	47° / 32°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	46° / 36°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	52° / 45°	
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	48° / 28°	
Rome	Cloudy	61° / 52°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	70° / 49°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	38° / 17°	
Seoul	Sunny	36° / 23°	
Tokyo	Sunny	48° / 36°	
Washington, DC	Cloudy	50° / 36°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:28 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.02	
11:02 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.99	
5:17 PM	LOW TIDE	0.74	
10:32 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.72	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:46 AM	6:15 PM
Thursday	6:46 AM	6:16 PM
Friday	6:46 AM	6:16 PM
Saturday	6:45 AM	6:16 PM
Sunday	6:45 AM	6:17 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:42 AM	10:04 PM	-
Thursday	10:27 AM	11:00 PM	-
Friday	11:13 AM	11:56 PM	-
Saturday	12:00 PM	-	-
Sunday	-	12:54 AM	12:51 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 17, 2017

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW308	3:05am	6:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:30pm	9:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)			
7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:55am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	4, 7
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
UO43	1:40am	5:00am	1, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/723	3:50am	12:50pm	Daily via ICN
PR1572/318	5:45am	12:20pm	4, 7 via MNL
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	9:50am	3:20pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TW307	8:45pm	2:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN			
7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
PR307/1571	6:20pm	4:45am+1	3, 6 via MNL
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily

6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
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ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Business

Wal-Mart opts for free, faster shipping on necessities

NEW YORK (AP)—Wal-Mart is replacing a program that offered free shipping but had an annual fee with one that has a lower free shipping threshold and faster delivery as it hopes to answer Amazon's powerful Prime membership success.

The retailer says it will reduce shipping time to two days on 2 million of its most popular essentials like diapers, pet food and cleaning supplies. Wal-Mart's average shipping time has been three to five days. Starting Tuesday morning, it's also reducing the spending necessary for free shipping to \$35 from \$50.

Wal-Mart's ShippingPass had allowed members to buy more than a million items for free shipping at Walmart.com. Last year, it trimmed its shipping time frame to two days from three, and it cut the annual fee by a dollar to \$49. Bentonville, Arkansas-based Wal-Mart said the service worked well, but that it concluded shoppers shouldn't have to pay a membership fee for free shipping.

The strategy shift is one of the first big moves by Walmart.com's CEO Mark Lore, who joined the company when Wal-Mart bought online

FBI: Hacking tool info could be of use to 'hostile entities'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The FBI on Monday defended its decision to withhold documents on how it unlocked an iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino, California, shooters, saying the information could be exploited by "hostile entities" if released to the public.

The Justice Department earlier this month released heavily censored records in response to a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit from The Associated Press, Vice Media and Gannett, the parent company of USA Today. Among the information withheld were details about how much the FBI paid last year to a third party to unlock the work phone of Syed Rizwan Farook, who along with his wife killed 14 people at a holiday party in December 2015, as well as the identity



In this May 9, 2013, file photo, a worker pushes shopping carts in front of a Wal-Mart store in La Habra, Calif.

retailer Jet.com last year. And it's an illustration of how Wal-Mart is trying to figure out a way to compete with Amazon and its dominant Prime plan.

Amazon's membership program costs \$99 a year, but of that entity.

In a court filing Monday that sought to justify those redactions, the Justice Department argued that the information it withheld, if released, could be seized upon by "hostile entities" who could develop their own "countermeasures" and interfere with the FBI's intelligence gathering by discovering the capabilities and limitations of those methods. The government also argued that disclosure "would result in severe damage to the FBI's efforts to detect and apprehend violators of the United States' national security and criminal laws through these very activities and methods."

"The withheld information is also very specific in nature, provided during a specific time period, and is known to very few individuals," Justice Department lawyers said.

includes services like streaming music and video that have created fierce loyalty.

Analysts say Amazon Prime members buy more frequently and spend more money.

Amazon doesn't disclose a Prime subscriber total, but it's estimated to be around 65

million. Wal-Mart wouldn't say how many ShippingPass subscribers it had, but all will receive a refund of their membership fee.

Lore declined to comment on Amazon, but said lower prices, a wider assortment of eligible goods and faster shipping alone can build loyalty. Lore promised more moves ahead to spur Wal-Mart's on-line business.

"Two-day, free shipping is table stakes," he said in a conference call Monday. "We've upped the ante. On a very fundamental level, we don't have to charge for membership. We can save customers both time and money."

Lore said he believes the new approach will dramatically increase sales. Wal-Mart's online sales had been slowing over the past two years, but notably accelerated during last year's third quarter. Wal-Mart reports fourth-quarter results next month.

Wal-Mart said purchases outside the 2 million "essentials" will count toward free shipping, but won't get the faster delivery.

CEOs push back against Trump temporary immigration ban

NEW YORK (AP)—CEOs of some of the world's biggest companies are fighting back against President Donald Trump's temporary immigration ban, calling it un-American and bad for business.

The heads of Apple, Ford and Goldman Sachs said that they don't support the executive order the president signed last week, which bans immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the U.S. Google said it is donating cash to organizations that support immigrants. Other companies said they will help employees affected by the ban or, in the case of Starbucks, hire refugees.

Businesses already have a complicated relationship with Trump, who has been openly critical of companies planning to build plants in Mexico or charge what he sees as too much for fighter jets. Some have announced hiring plans and investments in the U.S., saying they like Trump's plans to reduce regulation and lower

corporate taxes.

But the corporate reaction to the executive order was strong, quick and harsh.

"This is unprecedented," said Bill Klepper, an adjunct management professor at Columbia Business School in New York.

Trump said the executive order, signed Friday, was necessary to stop "radical Islamic terrorists" from coming to the U.S. It included a 90-day ban on travel to the U.S. by citizens of Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, or Yemen, and a 120-day suspension of the U.S. refugee program. The White House did not respond to a request for comment Monday.

It could be risky for businesses to speak out publicly, since Trump likes to fight back and criticize companies from his Twitter account. But public-relations experts said businesses have no choice, especially if the ban negatively affects their employees or customers.

"No company has gone out of business putting their customers and employees first," said Matt Friedman, co-founder of Tanner Friedman Strategic Communications in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

CEOs SPEAK OUT

Executives at technology companies, which employ many immigrants, were some of the first to speak out. Tim Cook, the CEO of iPhone maker Apple Inc., told employees in a memo obtained by The Associated Press that his company does not support the order. "Apple would not exist without immigration," Cook said.

CEOs from e-commerce companies Amazon.com Inc., eBay Inc. and Etsy Inc. also said they did not support Trump's order, as did the head of video-streaming company Netflix Inc.

Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent said the soda maker was against the travel ban, and General Electric Co. CEO Jeff Immelt said the in-

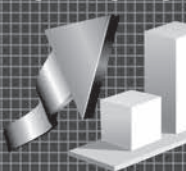
dustrial conglomerate would make its "voice heard" with the new administration and Congress.

Ford Motor Co. said it does not support the policy "or any other that goes against our values as a company," according to a letter signed by the automaker's CEO Mark Fields and Executive Chairman Bill Ford. General Motors Co. sent a note to employees saying it will support any who can't return to the U.S. because of the ban. But other automakers, Nissan Motor Co. and Honda Motor Co., were silent.

The auto industry, a frequent target of Trump's ire for moving jobs overseas, is walking a fine line, trying to avoid punishing tariffs and hoping Trump gives them some relief on corporate taxes and fuel economy standards.

And Goldman Sachs Group Inc., whose former employees are some of Trump's most trusted advisers, also pushed back.

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

19,971.13
-122.65
-0.61%

S&P

2,280.90
-13.79
-0.60%

NASDAQ

5,613.71
-47.07
-0.83%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3219
British Pound	0.799
Canadian Dollar	1.3093
Chinese Yuan	6.8767
Euro	0.934

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7579	Russian Ruble	59.8424
Indian Rupee	67.792	Singapore Dollar	1.4186
Japanese Yen	113.375	South Korean Won	1161.4
Malaysian Ringgit	4.428	Swiss Franc	0.9945
New Zealand Dollar	1.3703	Taiwan Dollar	31.3621
Philippine Peso	49.72	Thailand Baht	35.1835

Nation

Trump fires Justice Dept. head over executive order defiance

WASHINGTON (AP)—Accusing her of betrayal and insubordination, President Donald Trump on Monday fired Sally Yates, the acting attorney general of the United States and a Democratic appointee, after she publicly questioned the constitutionality of his controversial refugee and immigration ban and refused to defend it in court.

The dramatic public clash between the new president and the nation's top law enforcement officer laid bare the growing discord and dissent surrounding Trump's executive order, which temporarily halted the entire U.S. refugee program and banned all entries from seven Muslim-majority nations for 90 days.

The firing came hours after Yates directed Justice Department attorneys not to defend the executive order, saying she was not convinced it was lawful or consistent with the agency's obligation "to stand for what is right." Trump soon followed with a statement accusing Yates of having "betrayed the Department of Justice by refusing to enforce a legal order designed to protect the citizens of the United States."

He immediately named longtime federal prosecutor Dana Boente, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, as Yates' replacement.

Boente was sworn in privately late Monday, the White House said. He promptly ordered Justice Department lawyers to "do our sworn duty and to defend the lawful orders of our President."

Boente said Trump's executive order was "both lawful on its face and properly drafted."

Yates' refusal to defend the executive order was largely symbolic given that Sen. Jeff Sessions, Trump's pick for attorney general, will almost cer-



AP
In this June 28, 2016, file photo, then-Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates speaks at the Justice Department in Washington.

tainly defend the policy once he's sworn in. He's expected to be confirmed Tuesday by the Senate Judiciary Committee and could be approved within days by the full Senate.

The chain of events bore echoes of the Nixon-era "Saturday Night Massacre," when the attorney general and deputy attorney general resigned rather than follow an order to fire a special prosecutor investigating the Watergate scandal. The prosecutor, Archibald Cox, was fired by the solicitor general.

Yates' abrupt decision reflected the growing conflict over the executive order, with administration officials moving Monday to distance themselves from the policy. As protests erupted at airports over the weekend and confusion disrupted travel around the globe, even some of Trump's top advisers and fellow Re-

The 7 banned countries

Trump's executive order on immigration bars citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States for the next 90 days and suspends the admission of all refugees for 120 days.



Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

publicans made clear they were not involved in crafting the policy or consulted on its implementation.

At least three top national security officials—Defense

Secretary Jim Mattis, Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly and Rex Tillerson, who is awaiting confirmation to lead the State Department—have told associates they were

not aware of details of the directive until around the time Trump signed it. Leading intelligence officials were also left largely in the dark, according to U.S. officials.

Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker, the top Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations committee, said that despite White House assurances that congressional leaders were consulted, he learned about the order in the media.

Trump's order pauses America's entire refugee program for four months, indefinitely bans all those from war-ravaged Syria and temporarily freezes immigration from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen. Federal judges in New York and several other states issued orders that temporarily block the government from deporting people with valid visas

who arrived after Trump's travel ban took effect and found themselves in limbo.

Yates, who was appointed deputy attorney general in 2015 and was the No. 2 Justice Department official under Loretta Lynch, declared Monday she was instructing department lawyers not to defend the order in court.

"I am responsible for ensuring that the positions we take in court remain consistent with this institution's solemn obligation to always seek justice and stand for what is right," Yates wrote in a letter announcing her position. "At present, I am not convinced that the defense of the Executive Order is consistent with these responsibilities nor am I convinced that the Executive Order is lawful."

Trump said the order had been "approved" by Justice Department lawyers. However, the department has said the Office of Legal Counsel review was limited to whether the order was properly drafted, but did not address broader policy questions.

Other parts of Trump's administration also voiced dissent Monday. A large group of American diplomats circulated a memo voicing their opposition to the order, which temporarily halted the entire U.S. refugee program and banned all entries from seven Muslim-majority nations for 90 days. White House spokesman Sean Spicer challenged those opposed to the measure to resign.

"They should either get with the program or they can go," Spicer said.

DALLAS (AP)—The Boy Scouts of America announced Monday that it will allow transgender children who identify as boys to enroll in its boys only programs.

The organization said it had made the decision to begin basing enrollment in its boys-only programs on the gender a child or parent lists on the application to become a scout. The Boy Scouts had previously held a policy that relied on the gender listed on a child's birth certificate for those programs.

The organization's leadership had considered a recent case in Secaucus, New Jersey, where an 8-year-old transgender child had been asked to leave his Scout troop af-

Boy Scouts will allow transgender children into programs

ter parents and leaders found out he is transgender. But the statement issued Monday said the change was made because of the larger conversation about gender identity going on around the country.

"For more than 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America, along with schools, youth sports and other youth organizations, have ultimately deferred to the information on an individual's birth certificate to determine eligibility for our single-gender programs," the statement said. "However, that approach is no longer sufficient as communities and state laws are interpreting gender identity

differently, and these laws vary widely from state to state."

Kristie Maldonado said she had mixed emotions Monday night when a representative of Boy Scouts of America called to tell her the organization would allow her son, Joe, to re-enroll in his troop after he was asked to leave last fall. Maldonado said she would like her son to rejoin the Secaucus troop, but only if the scout leader who made the previous decision leaves.

She said Joe, who will turn 9 on Wednesday, has spoken publicly about the incident. She called him a "ham" and noted he had a big birthday party on

Saturday with the mayor of Secaucus in attendance.

"I'm so grateful. I really am that they're accepting and that there won't be any issues. They (other transgender youth) won't have to go through what my son went through," Maldonado said when reached by phone Monday. "It's a big change for everybody that all are accepted now ... I'm so delighted that they finally called and they did say this, but I'm still angry."

Maldonado said the earlier decision to remove her son from the troop made him feel different, and she wanted to make sure he knew the troop

made a mistake.

The Boy Scouts said the enrollment decision goes into effect immediately.

"Our organization's local councils will help find units that can provide for the best interest of the child," the statement said.

Zach Wahls, co-founder of the groups Scouts for Equality, called the decision historic.

"The decision to allow transgender boys to participate in the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts is an important step forward for this American institution," he wrote in a statement posted to social media. "We are incredibly proud of Joe

Maldonado—the transgender boy from New Jersey whose expulsion last year ignited this controversy—and his mother Kristie for their courage in doing what they knew was right. We are also proud of the Boy Scouts for deciding to do the right thing."

Boy Scouts of America leaders lifted a blanket ban on gay troop leaders and employees in July 2015 amid intense pressure. The group had, after heated internal debate, decided in 2013 to allow openly gay youth as scouts.

The national Girl Scouts organization, which is not affiliated with the Boy Scouts, has accepted transgender members for years.

Asia

PH police stop anti-drug crackdown amid scandal

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine police chief stopped the use of the national police force in anti-drug operations Monday and disbanded all police anti-narcotics units after the president's brutal crackdown was used as a cover by rogue officers to kidnap and kill a South Korean man for money.

Police Director-General Ronald Dela Rosa told police officers he would use the indefinite halt of anti-drug operations to launch a massive purge of police involved in crimes. A counter-intelligence force would be formed to catch rogue officers and records of those previously implicated in crimes would be reviewed.

"No more drug operations now," Dela Rosa told police officers at the main police camp, without indicating how long the ban would last.

An estimated 7,000 drug-related killings have occurred since President Rodrigo Duterte started his anti-drug crackdown in July, and more than 2,500 of those involved suspects who allegedly fought back and were gunned down in clashes with police, the na-



tional police said, adding 35 policemen and three soldiers had been killed.

The scale of the anti-drug campaign has been unprecedented, with officials reporting that more than 7 million houses of drug suspects have been visited so far, prompting

more than 1.1 million mostly drug users to surrender and agree to undergo rehabilitation programs.

Human rights watchdogs have suspected extrajudicial killings of drug suspects may have been covertly carried out by police or at their behest.

Phelim Kine, deputy Asia director at U.S.-based Human Rights Watch, said the temporary stoppage in police anti-drug operations to allow an internal police purge "is nothing less than an empty public relations gesture unless he seeks meaningful accountability for the more than 7,000 Filipinos killed" in the crackdown.

While Dela Rosa has suspended police operations, Duterte has declared his crackdown would continue up the last day of his six-year term.

"We have to focus our effort toward internal cleansing and by the time we have cleansed the national police, the president will determine that and he will instruct us to go back to

our war on drugs," said Dela Rosa, warning wrongdoers they face dire punishments. "You policemen involved in syndicates, let's see what happens now, fight back so you'll end up dead," Dela Rosa said. "You will be killed by this counter-intelligence task force."

With the police essentially taken out of the crackdown, most of the work would shift to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, which has a much smaller number of enforcers, Dela Rosa said.

As to how the police crisis affects drug lords, "this is a momentary victory on your part," the police chief said, expressing fears that use of methamphetamine, locally known as "shabu," may rise again. "Go ahead and enjoy, but there is always a time for reckoning."

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ASIAN BRIEFS

Myanmar ruling party mourns assassination of Suu Kyi adviser

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Thousands of Myanmar politicians, activists and others shocked by the assassination of a longtime adviser to leader Aung San Suu Kyi gathered Monday at a cemetery for an emotional funeral ceremony, while police investigated the motive for the killing. Ko Ni, a prominent lawyer and member of Myanmar's Muslim minority, was shot in the head at close range as he walked out of the Yangon airport Sunday. The suspected shooter was apprehended while trying to escape. A statement issued late Monday by the office of President Htin Kyaw said that according to an initial interrogation, the shooting was intended "to threaten the country's stability." It said the authorities would step up security measures, and urged people not to be frightened and refrain from agitation involving race or religion. The killing shocked many in Yangon because attacks on prominent people are rare, although security forces are notorious for brutal behavior in remote rural areas, especially when dealing with ethnic minorities.

Dutch woman rescued after health crisis on Antarctic cruise

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—A Dutch tourist aboard a cruise ship near Antarctica who suffered a suspected stroke was successfully evacuated Tuesday to a U.S. base on the frozen continent. New Zealand's Rescue Coordination Centre said the 66-year-old woman was flown by the ship's helicopter to McMurdo Station and is due fly to New Zealand on Wednesday where she will receive

further medical treatment. Chris Henshaw, a senior search and rescue officer, said the inhospitable conditions make medical rescues in Antarctica complex and challenging. "It's a long way from anywhere," he said. "There's not a lot of support out there." He said the woman was cared for by a doctor aboard the cruise ship Ortelius, which sailed 670 kilometers (416 miles) off its normal route to get close to the base.

Singapore teen submits US asylum claim in immigration court

CHICAGO (AP)—A Singapore teenager seeking to stay in the U.S. after his blog posts mocking his government twice landed him in jail made his first appearance Monday in a Chicago immigration court, where an attorney officially submitted his application for asylum. Amos Yee appeared via video and spoke little during the hearing. He's been detained at a northern Illinois jail since December, when immigration authorities took him into custody at O'Hare International Airport. His 246-page application includes statements of support from Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, who urged U.S. officials to let him stay. They allege Yee has been harassed by the Singapore government for publicly expressing his views on religion and politics, and for criticizing the city-state's leaders, including late Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. Yee, 18, was imprisoned in Singapore for six weeks in September on charges of hurting the religious feelings of Christians and Muslims, after breaching bail conditions following a monthlong sentence he served on the same charges.

Premier: Trump ban doesn't affect Australia passport holders

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The White House had assured Australia that its passport holders won't be affected by President Donald Trump's executive order suspending immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries, the Australian prime minister said Tuesday as he resisted pressure to join other Western leaders in publicly denouncing the travel ban.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull made the announcement after 15-year-old Pouya Ghadirian said the U.S. Consulate in Melbourne refused him a visa Monday to go on a school trip to the United States because he had an Iranian passport as well as an Australian passport.

"Our ambassador has just called me to say that he's had assurances, confirmation from the White House, that Australian passport-holders—regardless of their place of birth or whether they are dual nationals or whether they hold another passport—will remain welcome to come and go to the United States in the usual way," Turnbull told Sky News television.

Turnbull said the case of Ghadirian, who was born in

Melbourne to Iranian parents, could be reconsidered by American authorities, although he was not familiar with the reasons behind the visa refusal.

Trump signed an executive order last week banning immigration for citizens of seven Muslim-majority nations, including Iran, for 90 days.

Turnbull has rejected calls from political opponents to condemn the order as leaders of Germany, Britain, France and Canada have done. Turnbull said he would not publicly comment on U.S. domestic policy.

"When I have frank advice to give to an American president, I give it privately, as good friends should, as wise prime ministers do when they want to ensure they are best able to protect Australians and Australia's national interest," Turnbull told reporters.

"Others can engage in commentary. My job is to stand up for Australia, Australian interests and deliver. That's what we've done today," he added, referring to the Australian exemption from the executive order.

Opposition Leader Bill Shorten, who last May said

"Trump's views are just barking mad on some issues," told the National Press Club on Tuesday that Turnbull's silence could be interpreted as agreement.

"The job of prime minister is not worth having if you won't stand up for what you believe in," Shorten said.

Some observers suspect Turnbull has held his tongue because he is grateful to Trump for agreeing last weekend to keep an Obama administration promise to resettle mostly Muslim refugees rejected by Australia.

The Obama administration had agreed to resettle an unspecified number of refugees held on the Pacific island nations of Nauru and Papua New Guinea. Australia refuses to resettle any refugee who comes by boat.

The agreement had seemed to be in doubt under the Republican administration because of Trump's comments about Muslim immigration.

Turnbull on Tuesday described Trump agreeing to resettle the refugees—mostly from Africa, Asia and the Middle East—as "a very good result."

World

6 counts of murder for Quebec mosque attack suspect

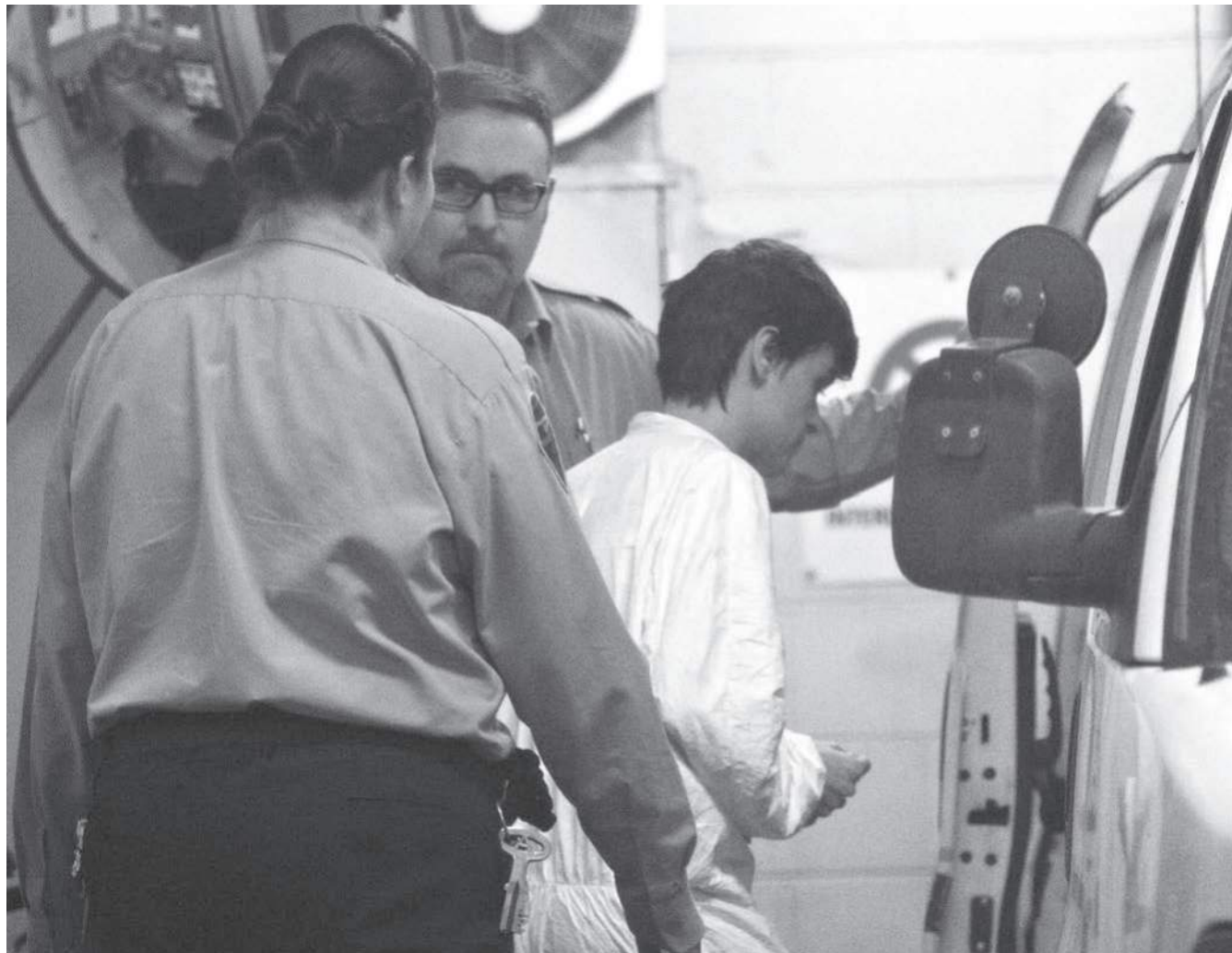
QUEBEC CITY (AP)—A French Canadian known for far-right, nationalist views was charged Monday with six counts of first-degree murder and five counts of attempted murder over the shooting rampage at a Quebec City mosque that Canada's prime minister called an act of terrorism against Muslims.

Suspect Alexandre Bissonnette made a brief court appearance and did not enter a plea in the attack that left six people dead during evening prayers Sunday. Wearing a white prisoner jump suit, his hands and feet shackled, he stared down at the floor and fidgeted, but did not speak.

The 27-year-old suspect, who has espoused support for the French far-right party of Marine Le Pen and had liked U.S. President Donald Trump on his Facebook page, was known to those who monitor extremist groups in Quebec, said François Deschamps, an official with a refugee advocacy group. "It's with pain and anger that we learn the identity of terrorist Alexandre Bissonnette, unfortunately known to many activists in Quebec for taking nationalist, pro-Le Pen and anti-feminist positions at Laval University and on social media," Deschamps wrote on the Facebook page of the group, Bienvenues aux Réfugiés, or Welcome to Refugees.

An anthropology and political science major at Laval University in Quebec City, Bissonnette had also expressed support on his Facebook profile for "Génération Nationale," a group whose manifesto includes the rejection of "multiculturalism."

More than 50 people were



AP
Alexandre Bissonnette is escorted to a van Monday, Jan. 30, 2017, in Quebec City, after appearing in court for Sunday's deadly shooting at a mosque.

6 killed in mosque shooting, suspect arrested



Police did not give a motive for the attack.

Trump called Trudeau to express condolences to the Canadian people and to offer any assistance that might be needed.

at the Quebec Islamic Cultural Centre when the shooting erupted. In addition to the six dead, 19 people were wounded—all men. Of the five victims who remained hospitalized, two were in critical condition, authorities said. The dead ranged in age from 39 to 60.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard both characterized the attack as a terrorist act, which came amid heightened tensions worldwide over Trump's travel ban on seven Muslim countries. Le Pen, leader of the National Front in France, is known for her anti-Muslim, anti-immi-

grant positions and has won the endorsement and admiration of white supremacists.

Canada is generally welcoming toward immigrants and all religions, but the French-speaking province of Quebec has had a long-simmering debate about race and religious accommodation. The previous separatist government of the province called for a ban on ostentatious religious symbols, such as the hijab, in public institutions.

Trudeau said in Parliament the victims were targeted simply because of their religion and spoke directly to the more than 1 million Muslims who live in Canada, saying, "We

are with you."

"Thirty-six million hearts are breaking with yours," Trudeau said. "Know that we value you."

The prime minister later attended a vigil outside the mosque.

The suspect was arrested in his car on a bridge near d'Orleans, where he called 911 to say he wanted to cooperate with police. Authorities, who initially named two suspects, said the other man taken into custody was a witness to the attack and was released earlier Monday. They said they did not believe there were other suspects but were investigating.

200 Somali refugees in Kenya are blocked from going to US

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—More than 200 refugees who had been heading to the U.S. for resettlement have been told they cannot travel as a result of President Donald Trump's executive orders that temporarily suspend all immigration of citizens from seven majority-Muslim countries, a Somali refugee and officials said Monday.

The refugees left Dadaab, the world's largest refugee camp in eastern Kenya, last week but they have been told by the International Organization for Migration that their Monday flights have been cancelled "because of Trump's orders," said Suleiman Yusuf, a Somali refugee who is a teacher.

Yusuf said he has been waiting for 10 years to be resettled in the U.S. and his dream now faces an uncertain future. "I was to be resettled in Minnesota. I am a teacher by profession and have been teaching at Dadaab. I was hoping to start a new life in America but we are now stuck going back to Dadaab," he said. He was a headmaster at a Dadaab school.

A senior official with the U.N. refugee agency at the Dadaab camp said 286 Somali refugees from Dadaab and Kakuma, another camp

in northern Kenya, were affected by Trump's ban. The official insisted on anonymity because he is not authorized to speak with the media.

The United Nations refugee agency media officer Yvonne Ndege said Monday that about 13,000 Somali refugees have been interviewed and approved by the United States Citizen and Immigration Services but their resettlement has been halted by the new order. An additional 13,000 Somali refugees have applied to be resettled in the U.S., according to Ndege.

The Kenyan government has said it will close the Dadaab camp by May and the refugees who want to go to the U.S. maybe at risk of being returned to war-torn Somalia when the camp is closed.

Kenya has hosted Somali refugees since the 1991 ouster of dictator Siad Barre by warlords who then turned on each other. Somalia has been wracked by violence and is struggling to rebuild amid an insurgency by al-Shabab, the Islamic extremists backed by al-Qaida. Kenya said it will shut down Dadaab because al-Shabab has infiltrated the refugee camp and is using it as a recruitment and training ground for terrorists.

Co-defendant in French art heist says he destroyed paintings

PARIS (AP)—A co-defendant in one of the world's biggest art heists testified in court Monday that he destroyed and threw away five art masterpieces worth more than \$100 million that were stolen by a thief nicknamed "the spider-man."

Yonathan Birn was among three people who went on trial in the case Monday. The five paintings stolen in 2010 from the French capital's city Museum of Modern Art—a Picasso, a Matisse, a Modigliani, a Braque and a Fernand Leger—have never been found.

"I threw them into the trash," Birn repeated three times at the court bar, in tears. "I made the worst mistake of my existence."

Neither the investigating

judge nor other defendants at the trial believe Birn's claims. The investigators are convinced the five paintings have been taken out of France, but they have not been able to prove that, court documents show. Birn's co-defendants testified he was "too smart" to destroy the masterpieces.

Lead suspect Vjeran Tomic, dubbed "the spider-man" by French news media, has been convicted 14 times in the past, notably for thefts. Authorities found climbing gear at his home: gloves, ropes, harness, climbing shoes and suction cups.

Tomic testified that around 3 a.m. on May 20, 2010, he broke into the museum near the Eiffel Tower with apparent ease, tak-

ing advantage of supposed failures in the security, alarm and video-surveillance systems.

"Spider-man" removed the glass from a bay window without breaking it, cut the padlock of the metal grid behind it, allowing him to then move from one room to another without arousing the guards' suspicions.

Tomic was there to steal a painting by Fernand Leger and possibly a Modigliani ordered by a third defendant, 61-year-old antiques dealer Jean-Michel Corvez, who confessed to being a receiver of stolen goods. Tomic said that when he came across the Picasso, the Matisse and the Braque paintings, he decided to take them as well.

Several hours after the head-

line-making burglary, Tomic said, he offered the five paintings to Corvez, who said he was "totally stunned" by them.

Corvez said he initially gave Tomic a plastic bag containing 40,000 euros (\$43,000) in small denominations just for the Leger because he was unsure he would get buyers for the other paintings.

Corvez became worried about keeping the artworks in his shop after several months and showed them to his friend Birn, a 40-year-old expert and dealer in luxury watches. Birn said he agreed to buy the Modigliani for 80,000 euros (\$86,000) and to store the others in his studio. The Modigliani was hidden in a bank safe, he said.

Focus



AP ANALYSIS:

Trump travel ban risks straining Mideast ties

AP
In this Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 file photo, President Donald Trump holds up a signed Presidential Memorandum in the Oval Office in Washington. Just two days after banning travelers from seven Muslim-majority nations, U.S. President Donald Trump invited the Saudi monarch, whose kingdom includes Islam's holiest sites, to fly to Washington. It points to the delicate balancing act Trump faces as he tries to deliver on campaign promises to exterminate "radical Islamic terrorism" without endangering political and economic ties with U.S. allies in the region, many of which are countries where the Trump Organization has business interests.

By ADAM SCHRECK AND
JON GAMBRELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Just two days after banning travelers from seven Muslim-majority nations, U.S. President Donald Trump invited the Saudi monarch, whose kingdom includes Islam's holiest sites, to fly to Washington.

It points to the delicate balancing act Trump faces as he tries to deliver on campaign promises to exterminate "radical Islamic terrorism" without endangering political and economic ties with U.S. allies in the region, including some where the Trump Organization has business interests.

The executive order could upend gains on the battlefields of Mosul, where U.S. forces aid Iraqi commandos, or scuttle billions of dollars' worth of American aircraft sales to Tehran. Trump has vigorously defended the ban, saying it is only "about terror and keeping our country safe."

Traditional American allies in the region have kept largely silent about the ban. Many welcome tougher action against Iran, one of the seven countries included in the executive order. But any move to expand the

ban to other countries will undoubtedly inflame public opinion and could force them to respond in kind.

"Such selective and discriminatory acts will only serve to embolden the radical narratives of extremists and will provide further fuel to the advocates of violence and terrorism at a critical time," the Organization of Islamic Cooperation said Monday.

The 57-nation bloc urged the U.S. to reconsider the policy "and maintain its moral obligation to provide leadership and hope at a time of great uncertainty and unrest in the world."

The warning came hours after Trump called Saudi King Salman and Abu Dhabi's powerful crown prince, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the likely future president of the United Arab Emirates. King Salman also invited Trump to visit Saudi Arabia.

Official regional government reaction has been muted to the 90-day ban on travel to the U.S. by citizens of Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen. The order also suspends refugee admissions for 120 days and indefinitely bars the processing of refugees from Syria.

OPEC members Saudi Arabia and the UAE, the Arab world's largest economies, have bought billions of dollars' worth of weapons from the U.S., and thousands of U.S. troops

remain stationed across the region.

Several Arab allies of the U.S. have carried out airstrikes against the Islamic State group and, more vitally, allow access to air bases and seaports supporting the bombing, reconnaissance and refueling runs over Iraq and Syria.

Iraq, which is on the front lines in the fight against Islamic State group, is just over a third of the way through acquiring three dozen American-made F-16 fighters. It's unclear how the ban will affect the Iraqi pilots, who are trained in the U.S.

The Iraqi Air Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Anwar Hama Amin, initially said the military has yet to receive a "clear response" on whether the ban applies to members of the Iraqi security forces.

"I'm worried and surprised," he said. "We are fighting terrorism and this order will affect the fighting. ... I hope this order will be reconsidered."

Amin later said American officials told him the pilots wouldn't be affected by the U.S. ban. The U.S. Central Command did not respond to a request for comment.

U.S. Sens. John McCain and Lindsey Graham, both Republicans and retired military officers, have warned Trump's immigration order could become "a self-inflicted wound in the fight against terrorism."

Intelligence-sharing and counterterrorism partnerships with Arab allies could also be threatened by a souring of relations.

The UAE, for example, hosts a digital communications center focused on countering IS propaganda, and in coordination with Saudi intelligence was instrumental in thwarting a 2010 plot to blow up two U.S.-bound cargo planes.

That tight relationship makes it easier for Trump to do business in a country like the UAE, a market his company has tried to break into for over a decade. A Trump-branded golf course is set to open soon in Dubai, and another is in the works.

The Trump Organization also sought business in Egypt, Qatar and Saudi Arabia before he became president. All but four of the Sept. 11 hijackers came from Saudi Arabia, while two came from the UAE. Turkey, which is home to the Trump Towers Istanbul, has been hit by a string of deadly attacks.

Bahrain and Kuwait have booked space in the new Trump International Hotel in Washington, while Trump Tower in New York collects rent from the tourist office of Abu Dhabi. Trump announced plans to separate himself from his company earlier this month, handing its management over to his two adult sons, but ethics

experts have said conflicts of interest could remain.

Even more is at stake when it comes to American jobs and investors. The Middle East is a major buyer of big-ticket, American goods, from fighter planes and missiles to turbines, cars and construction equipment. American exports to the United Arab Emirates alone topped \$20 billion annually for the past five years.

Boeing Co. has sealed billions of dollars' worth of deals with Middle Eastern airlines, including Dubai-based Emirates, the region's largest carrier.

The Chicago-based plane maker completed a \$16.6 billion agreement for 80 jetliners with Iran last month, a deal made possible by the 2015 nuclear accord, which Trump has at times threatened to scrap or renegotiate.

The Gulf states, which view Iran as their biggest regional rival, are unlikely to object to its inclusion in the travel ban. But any expansion of the visa restrictions to other countries could provoke a backlash.

Abu Dhabi's state-owned The National newspaper has already objected to the immigration order, saying it is "not just disrespectful to those who have given their lives, but it also weakens the very alliances needed to stop further attacks in the Middle East and in the U.S."

Good Housekeeping

Gardening trends for 2017

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

DIGGIN' IN:

Like paint colors and fashion, gardening trends come and go.

For 2017, gardening trends range from clean, healthy living with fewer chemicals and more organic food to “sound-scaping” with trees to buffer sirens and birds to bring song.

“We see a lot of growth in the coming years for gardening,” says Katie Dubow, creative director at the Garden Media Group, a marketing group that tracks and promotes national gardening trends.

“Whatever you’re growing, wherever you’re growing it, the ability to garden year-round just makes this category so much more relevant. And access to healthy food, year-round, will be a game-changer.

“Uberizing is my favorite trend. In the next two years, experts estimate people will carry an average of eight subscription services. Do you know the two biggest reasons people don’t garden? Time and knowledge. The deliv-

ery model can solve both of those and get more people gardening. Gardening subscriptions offer a simple and convenient service for a beginner to start gardening without being overwhelmed by choice or lack of knowledge. Plus, they offer an experienced gardener access to unique or new varieties they hadn’t tried before. So many industries are playing the game, it’s time for gardening to get involved.”

Here, more gardening gurus share their thoughts on 2017 gardening trends:

The important millennial market force that wants to grow their own food, teas, cocktails, beer and medicine is expected to continue, according to Tish Llana of Countryside Gardens in Hampton, Va. Llana shops in Atlanta and Baltimore annually and attends nationwide seminars to keep up with national trends.

“Five million of the six million new gardeners last year were 18-34-year-olds, according to the 2016 Na-

tional Gardening Report,” she says. “New technology makes growing 365 days a year easy, affordable and convenient.”

For instance, indoor gardening—growing under lights in soil, hydroponically or aquaponically—is becoming more common. From growing arugula to bok choy, clean fresh food will be available to plant, pick and plate every season. From herbal tea gardens on the window sill and healing herbs under lights to vitamin-packed microgreens on the kitchen counter, medicinal gardens are blooming indoors.

“At the other end, Baby Boomers are keeping only those things that speak to their heart,” she says. “They are taking the plunge and discarding all the rest. By doing this, they can reset their life and embark on a new lifestyle.”

Food reigns important with Americans, who now demand to know what is in and on their food—and where it comes from, Llana adds.

“The demand for organic, locally sourced food now far exceeds the supply,” she says.

Landscaping is an expensive investment, whether you do it yourself or have someone create it for you. Your yard is also a natural reflection of the world where you live, so make it as natural as you can. Natural stone gives you the best of both worlds: value for your money and longevity in looks and feel.

Beautiful hardscaping, such as stone, will last a lifetime, says Peggy Krapf of Heart’s Ease Landscape & Garden Design in Williamsburg, Va. An added bonus is it doesn’t need water and deer never eat it.

Natural also goes well with mixing old with new and repurposing objects in the landscape, adds Krapf.

“I love gardens with personality and gardeners who use things they love in creative ways,” she says.

“Containers can become water features, fences can become areas to display collections, a child’s wagon can

become a portable garden and old broken pots can be partly buried in the ground with flowers spilling out of them onto the ground.”

It isn’t always easy to eliminate the lawn in a yard, especially on a large property, Krapf notes.

But there are many ways to minimize the amount of turf grass used. Create large planting beds, exaggerate wood lines and natural areas, and create patios and walkways can all reduce turf in the landscape.

“In small areas, ground covers and low growing plants can take the place of grass, often in addition to stepping stones and pathways,” she says.

Whether you’re trying to attract pollinators to your yard or add more diversity to the overall species count in your neighborhood, sustainability experts are now urging home gardeners to consider which plants and planting combinations will provide continued food and shelter to wildlife, long after we humans have wrapped up the gardening season, according to Randy Schultz of Shultz Communications, a gardening public relations specialist in Santa Fe, N.M.

For instance, American Meadows offers many types of flower seeds and flowering plants that attract pollinators to your yard and garden. Bee the Change seed pack-

ets contain an assortment of wildflower seeds that bring hummingbirds and bees. On a similar note, the Monarch Magnet Perennial Garden attracts and supports monarch butterflies.

For gardeners who want to branch out into different realms, these trends are growing in popularity:

Growing your own hops is a natural step for the beer enthusiast who wants to experiment with the freshest, most local ingredients possible, according to Grace Chapman Elton, horticulture director at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond, Va. It’s also fun to watch hops grow; however, you do need to have ample space and provide a structure for support for the prolific flowering vines.

Succulents continue to be popular for busy gardeners because they have great form and color and require little maintenance. Many new varieties are entering the market.

And natural dye gardens are a thing, according to Elton. The do it yourself spirit now extends to growing plants to dye your own textiles and clothing. Whether it’s using marigolds for a golden yellow or cosmos for a bright orange hue, it’s just one more way to enjoy your garden.

And the best news is that many vegetables and pollinator-attracting plants are also great for dyeing.

In Loving Memory of

Leticia Potoza Villacrusis

DOB: FEBRUARY 14, 1938

She was called to her eternal rest on January 29, 2017

She now joins

Mother: †Felisa Duhan Potoza
Father: †Francisco Salanguit Potoza
Brothers: †Fernando Potoza, Romeo Potoza
Sister: †Elisa Duhan Potoza

She is survived by:

Husband: Bernardo R. Villacrusis

Children and Grandchildren:

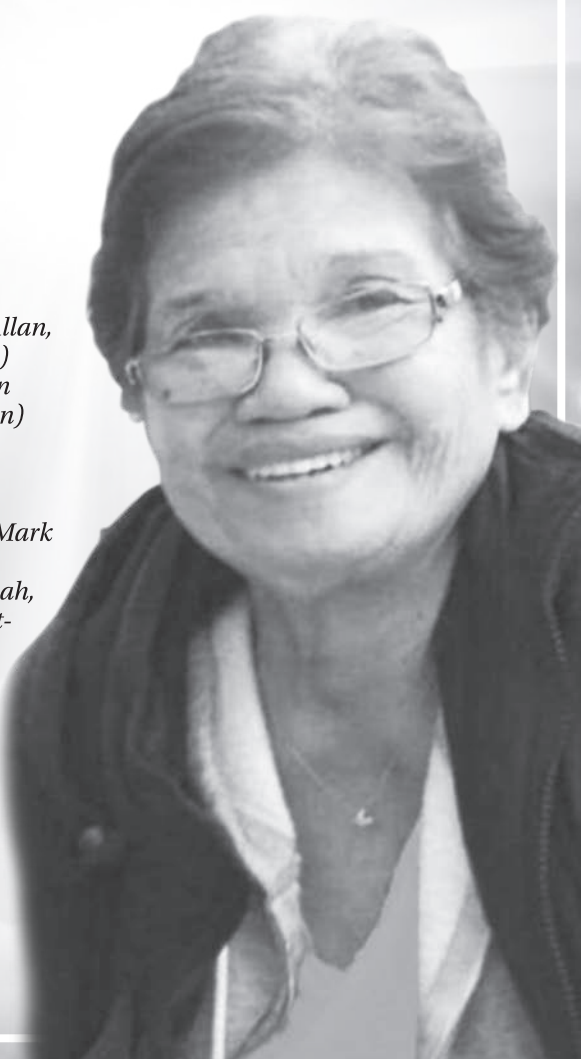
Estelita Susan and Luciano Larin (*Leicester Allan, Lysander Allan, Elaine Suzanne, Lawrence Allan, Ella Suzanne, Lorena*)
Arsenio Noel and Eduviges Villacrusis (*Marie Antonette, Ryan Gil, Christian Gil, Christine Ann, Rachel Ann, Hazel Ann*)
Maria Corazon Villacrusis (*Maria Angelica*)
Maria Theresa and Enrico San Jose (*Aeron James, Kathleen Rushell, Elijah Gabryl*)
Alena and Felizardo Angsioco (*Sheila Grace, Sean Dominic, Mark Darren, Mya Allyson*)
Joseph and Regina Villacrusis (*Raegine Agnes-Rose, Tyler Josiah, Jaden Kaye, Sebastian David-Anthony, Shayden Robert-Alan, Kya Tyanne, Aliyah Jo*)

Brothers and Sisters:

Milagros Magno, Edita Baral, Ernesto Potoza, Carolina Ruelo, Rogelio Potoza, Leopoldo Potoza, Teresita Reynoso, Cecilia Dizon, Elvira Reonosito

She is also survived by 27 great grandchildren.

Daily mass is offered at 6am and rosary at 7pm at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Funeral services and Mass will be held at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 11am.



GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

Grilled Flank Steak with Garden Salad

Simple grilled steak and a salad of sweet corn and juicy tomatoes make an easy and delicious summer meal.

2 teaspoons hot paprika
2 teaspoons dried tarragon
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
2 pounds flank steak
Cooking spray
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
3 ears corn
12 ounces cherry tomatoes
1/2 cup torn basil leaves
1/2 cup crumbled garlic-herb cheese

1. Prepare grill for covered direct grilling on high.
2. Meanwhile, in small bowl, mix hot paprika, dried tarragon, 1 teaspoon salt and

1/2 teaspoon pepper; rub all over flank steak. Spray each side of steak with cooking spray.

3. Grill steak, covered, 10 to 12 minutes for medium (140 F) or until desired doneness, turning over once.

4. While steak cooks, whisk olive oil, lemon juice and 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper in large bowl. Cut kernels off ears of corn; stir into dressing with cherry tomatoes and basil leaves.

5. Top steak with crumbled garlic-herb cheese. Serve with tomato-corn salad. Serves 4.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

† *Florence Rosario Leschibwemwaay*
*S. Camacho-Stephen*Lovingly known as "Encharing; Ghó; Flo"
November 10, 1967 – January 24, 2017*In Her new life, she now joins her:*

Husband: †Diwain A. Stephen

Mother-in-law: †Cecilia Linny

Grandparents:
†Pedro S. Seman
†Florencia K. Seman
†Rosario O. Camacho
†Jose C. Camacho
†Raphael C. Mafnas*Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:*Sons: Kelvin Ray Weilipischibw C. Stephen
Sidney Joshua Ighifisch C. Stephen

Parents: Jose Omar & Maria Seman Camacho

Father-in-law: Akitaro Linny

Grandmother: Tomasa C. Mafnas

Siblings: Joseph Jr. & Nadia Camacho & Family
Jina Camacho & Fasefulu Ray Tigilau
Peter Jeffery (PJ) & SiAna Camacho

Seman Family, Camacho Family, Mafnas Family, Billy Family (Lemat)

Mass of Intention for the repose of Her soul is scheduled on the following:

*Honolulu, HI***St. Peter & Paul Church**

Monday – Friday 12 Noon

*Saipan***San Roque Church**Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday 6am
Sunday 7am and 9am**Sta. Remedio (Tanapag)**Monday-Saturday 6pm
Sunday 6am**Kristo Rai (Garapan)**Monday-Friday 6am
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 6am/8am/9:30am**San Jose (Oleai)**Mondays (no mass)
Tuesdays 6am
Wednesdays 6pm
Thurs/Fri's 6am
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 7:30am/9am**St. Jude (Kobler)**Monday-Friday 6pm
(Tues. & Sat. no mass)
Sunday 6/8/10am**San Vicente**Monday-Friday 6pm
Wed. 5:30pm Holy Rosary
Sat. 5:30pm
Sun. 6/9am/5:30pm**San Antonio**Monday-Saturday 6pm
Sunday 7/9am**Sta. Soledad (Kagman)**Monday-Saturday 6pm
Sunday 6am and 8:30am**Mt. Carmel Cathedral**Monday-Friday 6am
Wednesday 6am and 6pm
Sunday 6/9/11am and 5pm*"For I know that my redeemer lives, and He shall stand at the last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that my flesh shall see God."**- Job 19:25 & 26*YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
OLOMWAAY, SI YU'US MA'ASE, KILISOU, & THANK YOU,*Weisch, Josh, & Family*

Life & Style

Ben Affleck is not directing Batman, but will produce, star

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ben Affleck is no longer directing the Batman standalone movie for Warner Bros.

In a statement Monday, Affleck said it “has become clear that I cannot do both jobs to the level they require” and that he and the studio are looking for a new director.

“There are certain characters who hold a special place in the hearts of millions,” Affleck said in the statement. “Performing this role demands focus, passion and the very best performance I can give.”

Affleck made his debut as the superhero for the studio



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Ben Affleck, left, and Henry Cavill in a scene from, “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice.”

last summer in “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,” and he had been attached to write and direct the Batman standalone movie for about a year. He attended Comic-Con this summer with his fellow DC Universe directors, like “Wonder Woman’s” Patty Jenkins, “Justice League’s” Zack Snyder, and Rick Famuyiwa, who this past fall also stepped away from directing “The Flash.”

The studio in a statement said that it “fully supports” his decision and “remains committed to working with him to bring a standalone Batman picture to life.”

Warner Bros. and Affleck have had a longstanding relationship. This past fall alone, Affleck made a cameo as Batman/Bruce Wayne in “Suicide Squad,” starred in “The Accountant,” and wrote, directed and starred in the period drama “Live by Night.”

Speaking to The Associated Press in December, Affleck said he was taking his time with the script for Batman, which he called an “exhilarating” challenge, “like jumping out of an airplane.”

Warner Bros. has had a rocky start kicking off its expanded universe of DC Com-

ics films. Both “Batman v Superman” and “Suicide Squad” were savaged by critics, but they still managed to be decently profitable.

Affleck will appear next as Batman in “Justice League,” which comes out on Nov. 17. The Batman standalone doesn’t yet have an official title or release date, but it was tentatively pegged for 2018.

“I am still in this, and we are making it,” Affleck’s statement continued. “I remain extremely committed to this project, and look forward to bringing this to life for fans around the world.”



Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach, left, prepares to crown Iris Mittenare of France shortly after being proclaimed the Miss Universe 2016 in coronation Monday, Jan. 30, 2017, at the Mall of Asia in suburban Pasay city, south of Manila, Philippines.

Miss France crowned Miss Universe in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A 24-year-old dental student from France won the Miss Universe crown Monday in a pageant held in the Philippines, saying her triumph will make the beauty contest more popular in Europe and help her efforts to put more underprivileged children in school.

Iris Mittenare from Lille city in northern France buried her face in her hands in shock and joy as the outgoing winner from the Philippines, Pia Wurtzbach, crowned her and the crowd erupted in cheers at the packed Mall of Asia Arena

by Manila Bay.

Miss Haiti, Raquel Pelissier, a 25-year-old survivor of the devastating 2010 earthquake that destroyed her hometown, was named first runner-up, while Miss Colombia, 23-year-old industrial designer and photographer Andrea Tovar, was second runner-up.

As he closed the ceremony, the host, American comedian Steve Harvey, quipped, “I got it right,” referring to his mistaken announcement of Miss Colombia as the winner in last year’s pageant in Las Vegas. He was roundly criticized for

the embarrassing error.

“One thing I learned in life, when you make a mistake, you gotta keep on moving forward man, that’s all,” Harvey said.

In her farewell remarks as outgoing winner, a smiling Wurtzbach thanked Harvey for making her “the most popular Miss Universe.” Harvey, laughing, thanked her for making him the “most famous” Miss Universe host.

Mittenare’s victory was the first by a French contestant in more than 60 years.

“I think France and Europe really need a Miss Universe”

after failing to win the crown for so long, she said at a post-pageant news conference when she was asked how her countrymen would receive her victory.

The contest has not been as popular in France as in other countries, she said, but “French people will love it now and every year they will be watching Miss Universe.”

“I’m very proud to bring this crown to Europe,” she said.

Mittenare said her victory would also help cheer French people following terrorist attacks in recent years. “We need good news in France and I think

this is very good news,” she said in response to a question from The Associated Press.

Mittenare said she would focus during her reign on helping all children, especially girls, attend school.

Pelissier said surviving Haiti’s quake, which officials in her country estimated killed more than 300,000 people and displaced more than 1.5 million others, and her pageant success underscored her rise from adversity because she “chose to be a very positive person and learned a great lesson from it.”

Sheriff: Suspect in Righteous Brothers wife slaying is dead

LOS ANGELES (AP)—More than four decades after the ex-wife of Righteous Brothers singer Bill Medley was raped and killed, officials announced Monday they used DNA to identify a suspect in the slaying: a man who was killed by police in 1982.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell said investigators believe Kenneth Eugene Troyer was responsible for the January 1976 slaying of Karen Klaas.

The 32-year-old was attacked Jan. 30, 1976, as she returned to her home in the Hermosa Beach neighborhood, was sexually assaulted and strangled with her pantyhose. She never regained consciousness and died a few days later at the hospital.

Investigators used a controversial DNA testing technique, known as familial DNA, to compare a sample of DNA that was collected at the crime scene and were able to identify a “first-degree relative” of Troyer, Sheriff’s Capt. Steve Katz said.

Officials would not identify the relative and would only say the sample they used was in a state database of convicted felons.

The technique, which has raised ethical issues in the forensics community, allows investigators to search law enforcement databases to identify likely relatives of the person who may have committed the crime. Law enforcement officials have argued the technique can provide investigators with valuable leads.

Study: Nearly 60 ct. of children like reading for fun

NEW YORK (AP)—Nearly 6 out of 10 young people ages 6-17 say they read for fun, according to a new study from Scholastic and YouGov, a percentage that has dipped slightly since a 2010 report.

Fifty-eight percent of those surveyed said they either loved reading for fun or “liked it a lot.” In 2010, 60 percent gave similar responses. The 12-14 age group had the biggest drop, from 61 percent to 50 percent,

while ages 15-17 improved from 50 to 54 percent.

Among the most positive findings: 40 percent of families say they began reading to their children when they were three months old or younger, compared to 30 percent in 2014.

The “Harry Potter” series

was a favorite choice for both kids and parents. The “Junie B. Jones” books and the “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” series were popular, too.

Monday’s report also shows that young people prefer their books the old-fashioned way, with around two-thirds saying they only want to read on

paper. Among those who did read an e-book, nearly half said they liked paper more, while only 16 percent favored the digital format. The remainder had no preference.

The survey also showed a wide gap between the number of children’s books at home among different income lev-

els. Households of those earning more than \$100,000 averaged 127 books, nearly double those homes where income was under \$35,000. Hispanic homes averaged 91 books, slightly less than the overall average of 104. African-American families averaged 67 books.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Azealia Banks picks fight with Rihanna over Trump order

Rapper Azealia Banks has launched another social media beef, and this time her target is Rihanna. Banks called out the Barbados-born Rihanna after the singer tweeted: “Disgusted! The news is devastating! America is being ruined right before our eyes!” The tweet was a response to President Donald Trump’s order to temporarily suspend immigration from seven Muslim majority nations. People magazine reports Banks responded by noting that Rihanna isn’t a citizen and can’t vote. Banks added “Stop chastising the president.” The stars went back and forth on Instagram for hours Sunday. Banks appears to have deleted many of her posts. Banks has a long history of taking shots at stars on social media, including T.I., Iggy Azalea and Eminem.

Mary Tyler Moore laid to rest in Connecticut

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (AP)—Mary Tyler Moore has been laid to rest during a private ceremony at a Connecticut cemetery. About 50 people attended the funeral and burial at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Fairfield on Sunday. Police said actress Bernadette Peters was among family and friends who attended. The gravesite

was adorned with a statue of an angel and scores of flowers including white orchids and roses. Actor Jason Robards also is buried at Oak Lawn. The Emmy-winning actress best known for her TV sitcom roles in “The Mary Tyler Moore Show” and “The Dick Van Dyke Show” died Wednesday. She was 80 and lived in Greenwich. A small number of fans gathered outside the front gate of the cemetery with signs saying, “I Love You,” “Rest in Peace” and “Mary = Love!”

Paris Jackson to guest star on Fox TV drama ‘Star’

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Paris Jackson is ready for her close-up. Fox TV said Monday that the daughter of the late Michael Jackson will make her acting debut this season on the drama series “Star.” Paris Jackson will play an intimidating social media guru, Rachel, who has an impact on the show’s lead characters. The 18-year-old Jackson was born to the pop star and then-wife Debbie Rowe. “Star,” from “Empire” creator Lee Daniels, is set in the music industry and features Queen Latifah as a surrogate mom to aspiring young singers. A date for the episode with Paris Jackson wasn’t announced. The show airs 9 p.m. EST Wednesday on Fox.

Judy Garland’s remains moved from NY to LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Judy Garland’s remains were moved cross-country to a mausoleum intended as the resting place for daughters Liza Minnelli and Lorna Luft and other family members.

The transfer from a crypt in New York’s Ferncliff Cemetery to Hollywood Forever Cemetery was completed last Friday, Noelle Berman, a Hollywood Forever spokeswoman, told The Associated Press.

“The move to Hollywood was made after many years of family consultations and

deliberations,” Berman said Monday. “Ms. Garland’s three children now reside in Southern California and wished to have their mother resting near them.”

The space in the mausoleum, renamed the Judy Garland Pavilion, has room for all her family including the famed actress-singer’s daughters, her son, Joey Luft, and her grandchildren, Berman said in an interview.

The move reflects resolution of an issue involving Garland’s fifth husband, according to Victoria Varela, a family spokeswoman.

“When Judy Garland died, her affairs were controlled by her husband, Mickey Deans. Her children had no say in the matter of her burial, so this is at last their opportunity to do what they feel their mother would have wanted in the first place—to be united with her family in Hollywood,” Varela said in a statement.

Garland, star of classic films including “The Wizard of Oz” and “Meet Me in St. Louis,” died in 1969 at age 47 in London. Deans died in 2003.

Her other spouses included

filmmaker Vincent Minnelli, father of Oscar-winning “Cabaret” star Liza, 70, and producer Sidney Luft, father to actress-singer Lorna, 64, and Joey, 61.

Hollywood Forever Cemetery, in the shadow of several historic movie studios, including Paramount Pictures, is the final resting place for many luminaries, among them Cecil B. DeMille and Douglas Fairbanks, and is the site of tributes to others such as Jayne Mansfield.

Garland’s gated family room is a part of the mausoleum, the cemetery said.



TRIAL STARTS

AP
In this May 20, 2010 file photo, police officers search for clues as they pack up the frames of the stolen paintings outside the Paris Museum of Modern Art, in Paris. Three people are on trial in Paris accused of involvement in one of the world’s biggest art heists, a dramatic 2010 theft of more than \$100 million worth of artworks from the Paris Museum of Modern Art, including a Picasso, a Matisse and other masterpieces. A co-defendant in one of the world’s biggest art heists testified in court Monday that he destroyed and threw away five art masterpieces worth more than \$100 million that were stolen by a thief nicknamed “the spider-man.” Yonathan Birn was among three people who went on trial in the case Monday. The five paintings stolen in 2010 from the French capital’s city Museum of Modern Art—a Picasso, a Matisse, a Modigliani, a Braque and a Fernand Leger—have never been found. “I threw them into the trash,” Birn repeated three times at the court bar, in tears. “I made the worst mistake of my existence.” Neither the investigating judge nor other defendants at the trial believe Birn’s claims.

Wife is surprised her soul mate is looking for sex with men

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 35 years. Our sex life was never very active, but we have been each other’s soul mates and best friends. We had a rough few years early on, but managed to come back together, and our relationship is great.

Recently, while I was setting up new email addresses, I saw some messages he had sent in response to requests from married men looking for sex with other men. I just can’t reconcile this with the man I know; however, I’m sure it’s true. I’m not sure if I should tell him I know, or if I should try to forget it. After all, I may be the reason he’s looking for sexual satisfaction elsewhere. More than anything, I’m surprised he’s not looking for a woman. I’m sure confused. What should I do?

SOUL MATES IN TEXAS

DEAR SOUL MATES: I seriously doubt that this is your fault. Your husband doesn’t look for women to satisfy his sex drive because his orientation may be homosexual (or bisexual) rather than heterosexual.

You say you are soul mates and best friends. Soul mates and best friends communicate honestly with each other. I do think you should level with him about what you discovered. Is his having sex outside of your marriage all right with you? If you have had sexual relations with him over the last few years, make an appointment with your doctor to be checked for STDs.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 30-year-old woman who has been with my boyfriend for a year and a half. He’s a great guy who treats me wonderfully. I know he sees marriage in our future, and that’s where my problem lies.

I’ve heard the saying that one should only marry someone (or even be with them) if one can’t imagine life without that person. Well, if I picture my life without him, I see myself being perfectly fine. Yes, I’d miss him, but I still think I could be happy without him. I don’t imagine ever feeling devastated like other people feel when they break up with someone. Is this a sign that something is missing from the relationship?

STILL ALL RIGHT IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR STILL ALL RIGHT: I don’t think so. The only thing that’s “missing” is the fact that you are not so emotionally dependent on your boyfriend that you couldn’t function if something were to happen to him. And in my opinion, that’s actually healthy, because relationships and marriages don’t last forever, even when we wish them to.

DEAR ABBY: Why is it that when adults are trying to get to know my children, the first thing they want to know is who they have a crush on? Not only is that an extremely personal question, it’s also the least significant part of their lives and not something I want them to dwell on.

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Ask instead what their favorite subject is, if they read a book recently they enjoyed, what kinds of activities they participate in or clubs they belong to. Please stop telling them that “surely some cute little kid” must have caught their eye.

WISE ONE IN VIRGINIA

DEAR WISE ONE: I agree. Young children may “like” someone, but may find it embarrassing to talk about. Another question, in addition to the ones you have suggested, might be, “Who are your friends, and what do you like doing with them?”

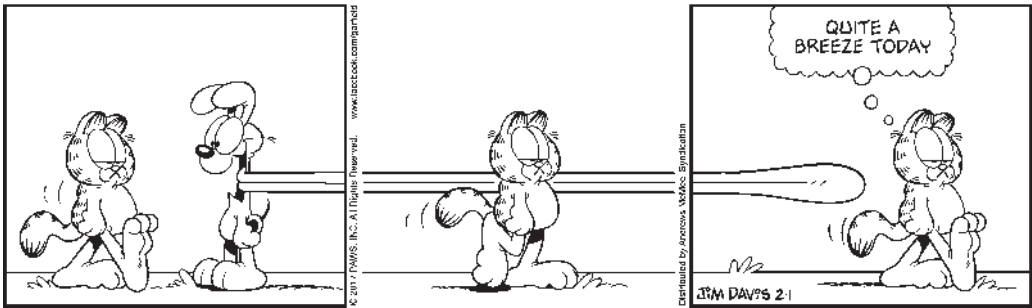
To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield® By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

28 Extra benefit

30 Favorite

33 Hoedown

36 Concoct

37 Ancient

38 Father-

39 Pitcher

40 Addams

41 Scale

DOWN

1 ER

4 Little

7 Hunt

8 "Be

10 Arcade

11 Also-rans

13 Nebraska,

16 Snoop

17 Maximum

18 "Territ!"

19 Corrals

20 Vogue

21 Waste

23 Flood

25 Castro's

26 —

27 Parisian

3 Omelet

4 Campbell

5 Map

6 Level

7 Swizzle

8 Shellfish

9 Tiny

10 Pump

12 Climb

14 Aachen

15 Lincoln

18 Coquette

28 Bowling-

30 Jail-

31 Ireland

32 Airport

34 507, to

35 Vacillate

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 2-1

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Harry Styles, 23; Ronda Rousey, 30; Big Boi, 42; Michael C. Hall, 46.

Happy Birthday: Take action and make an effort to bring about worthwhile changes in your life. Donating your time and services will result in opportunities to branch out and get involved in something that has substance and brings you satisfaction. Financial gains can be made, but don't let your generosity leave you cash-poor. Your numbers are 5, 12, 24, 27, 39, 45, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Physical activity will keep you out of trouble. Find a healthy way to channel your energy. Situations will spin out of control if you jump to conclusions. Be conscious of the way others feel. Offer help, not criticism. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Communication is encouraged. Speak up if there is something you want to share. Offering suggestions that will help others will put you into the spotlight, giving you the opportunity to bring about positive changes. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get involved in your community. Be a passionate leader and you'll find ways to make life better for yourself as well as others. Put your energy and charm to work and take advantage of whatever comes your way. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Choose to be a witness when it comes to disturbances and arguments. Observation can be a valuable tool that leads to fast-tracking your way

to success. Learn from the mistakes others make and offer your best. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Network and get involved in educational pursuits. The people you encounter and the information you gather could result in interesting plans. A lifestyle or vocational change will allow you to use your skills successfully. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You don't have to overspend to make an impression. Use your intelligence and you'll find better ways to grab attention. Take an unusual approach to the way you treat people and you will get good results. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can spend your time arguing with people or you can look for a way to get along with them. Emotional ups and downs will wear you out. Don't miss out on something great because you are too exhausted to take part. Call the shots. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get physical. Whether you just need a challenge or are trying to get into shape, taking up a sport or routine that will help strengthen you mentally, physically and emotionally should be your goal. Romance is encouraged. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Find your comfort zone. Take refuge where you feel the most secure, and work on making personal gains or improving your relationships with those you love. Trust in yourself, not what someone else tells you. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your thoughts to yourself and your plans a secret. Not everyone will see things your way, and emotional interference is likely to get in your way if you aren't careful. "Moderation, simplicity and discretion" should be your mantra. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make a couple of changes to the way you do things and you will gain respect and the chance to take on responsibilities that will help you grow and prosper. Reconnecting with past peers will encourage new beginnings. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may need a reality check if you differ from the general consensus. Reconsider your take on events and situations and listen to someone who has been a trusted ally in the past. You have much to gain if you compromise. ***

Birthday Baby: You are proactive, adaptable and fearless. You are broadminded and responsible.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ***

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CRI'SHER FINES Solution: 9 letters

GRANITE GNIKIHC C

NA TETILLIGRACOO

IL SEGDIRBABENNM

VUUGRAVELAMSECP

IGDEZISUCETPRRA

RNNPLKGNROSTEC

DAAGCEFTULELATTE

SCSORCIFCSSEGDEE

KLLRLOTTSUNKLAW

SBILPIUOORDSAAU

LCEAOOHNVVTASR

IDTNRSPIDCEEPHA

OHNETKCORTRSOB

SGRADES DRAYISUL

SRELLOROUNDEDTE

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Angular, Argillite, Backfill, Bender, Blocks, Bridges, Cement, Compacted, Concrete, Construction, Curves, Dips, Ditch, Driving, Durable, Dust, Edges, Grades, Granite, Gravel, Ground, Hiking, House, Irregular, Land, Leftovers, Outslope, Pack, Paths, Rock, Rollers, Rounded, Sand, Sized, Soils, Stable, Trails, Trench, Walk, Washout, Water, Yards

Yesterday's Answer: Last Christmas

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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At least high school graduate or equivalent. Knowledge in mixing different kind of alcoholic beverage. Knowledge of a second language will be considered a plus.
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Looking for (1) Mason
5 Years Experience, Skilled Worker With Good Working Character & Personality
P.O. Box 504249 CK,
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 285-5354 / 285-4297

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: ACCOUNTANT

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- College degree with Accountancy major.
- Minimum five (5) years progressive work experience as an Accountant.
- Extensive experience with MYOB accounting software and Microsoft office programs.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Prepare, examine, or analyze accounting records, financial statements, or other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness, and conformance to reporting and procedural standards.
- Compute CNMI and federal taxes owed and prepare monthly, quarterly and annual tax returns, ensuring compliance with filing, payment and reporting requirements. Prepare year-end employee wage and tax statements and annual reconciliation of taxes withheld.
- Conduct internal audits to verify compliance to procedures and controls.
- Report to management regarding the finances of establishment.
- Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting systems, making use of MYOB accounting software and Microsoft office programs.
- Develop, maintain, and analyze budgets, preparing periodic reports that compare budgeted costs to actual costs. Determine cause of variances and implement controls.
- Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments, and obligations, to project future revenues and expenses and to provide advice to management.
- Advise management about issues such as resource utilization, tax strategies and the assumptions underlying budget forecasts.
- Conduct periodic inventory of properties and merchandise. Determine cause of variances, do reconciliation and implement internal control.
- Perform other duties such as preparation of check and cash disbursements, payroll, collection of accounts, reconciliation of customers and vendors account ledgers and bank reconciliation.
- Update merchandise costs spreadsheet on a timely manner and adjust selling prices to achieve monthly budgeted gross sales.
- Survey operations to ascertain accounting needs and to recommend, develop or maintain solutions to business and financial problems.

Company: Asia 360, Inc.
Pale Arnold Road
PMB 316 PPP Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950
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Schor rankings
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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Rookie helps last-place Mavs topple Cavs, 104-97



DALLAS (AP)—Yogi Ferrell was hours away from playing in an NBA Development League game when he got a call that Dallas wanted to sign him.

Three days, two games and about 1,500 miles later, Cleveland stars LeBron James and Kyrie Irving, along with the defending champion Cavaliers, know a little more about the rookie guard from Mavericks owner Mark Cuban's alma mater.

Ferrell scored a career-high 19 points while helping cool off Irving, and the last-place Mavericks knocked off a title contender for the second straight night in a 104-97 win Monday over the Cavaliers, who were missing Kevin Love because of recurring back spasms.

Ferrell, the former Indiana player with the given first name of Kevin, outscored Irving in the second game of a 10-day contract, a night after hitting clinching free throws in the final seconds of a win at San Antonio.

"Was it in Erie or Buffalo?" Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle asked while trying to remember where the Long Island Ducks were playing when Ferrell got the call because of Dallas' injury issues at point guard. "I don't know. Nobody knows. Nobody knows where he came from."

It was Erie, and Ferrell helped limit Irving to 7-of-21 shooting to end a six-game streak of at least 20 points during which the Cavs All-Star averaged 30 points.

"I am living the dream right now," said the 23-year-old Ferrell, who spent four seasons with the Hoosiers, went undrafted and played 10 games for the Brooklyn Nets before getting waived in December.

James led the Cavaliers with 23 points, but combined with Irving for just one point in the

fourth quarter, 2-of-14 shooting from 3-point range and 11 of their team's 17 turnovers. Dallas had just nine turnovers.

Cleveland was showing signs of settling down, winning two straight after a tumultuous eight-game stretch that included six losses and James questioning whether the front office was satisfied with one title.

But the Cavaliers finished 7-8 in January by falling behind for good early in the second quarter against a team that was 0-9 on the second night of back-to-backs and lost by 38 in Cleveland in November.

That was the largest winning margin of the season for the Cavaliers and the most lopsided loss for Dallas.

"I don't even remember November," said James, who had nine rebounds and nine assists. "Play every game. It doesn't matter what you did in the game before."

Harrison Barnes led Dallas with 24 points and a season-high 11 rebounds for his second double-double of the season. Wesley Matthews scored 21 points.

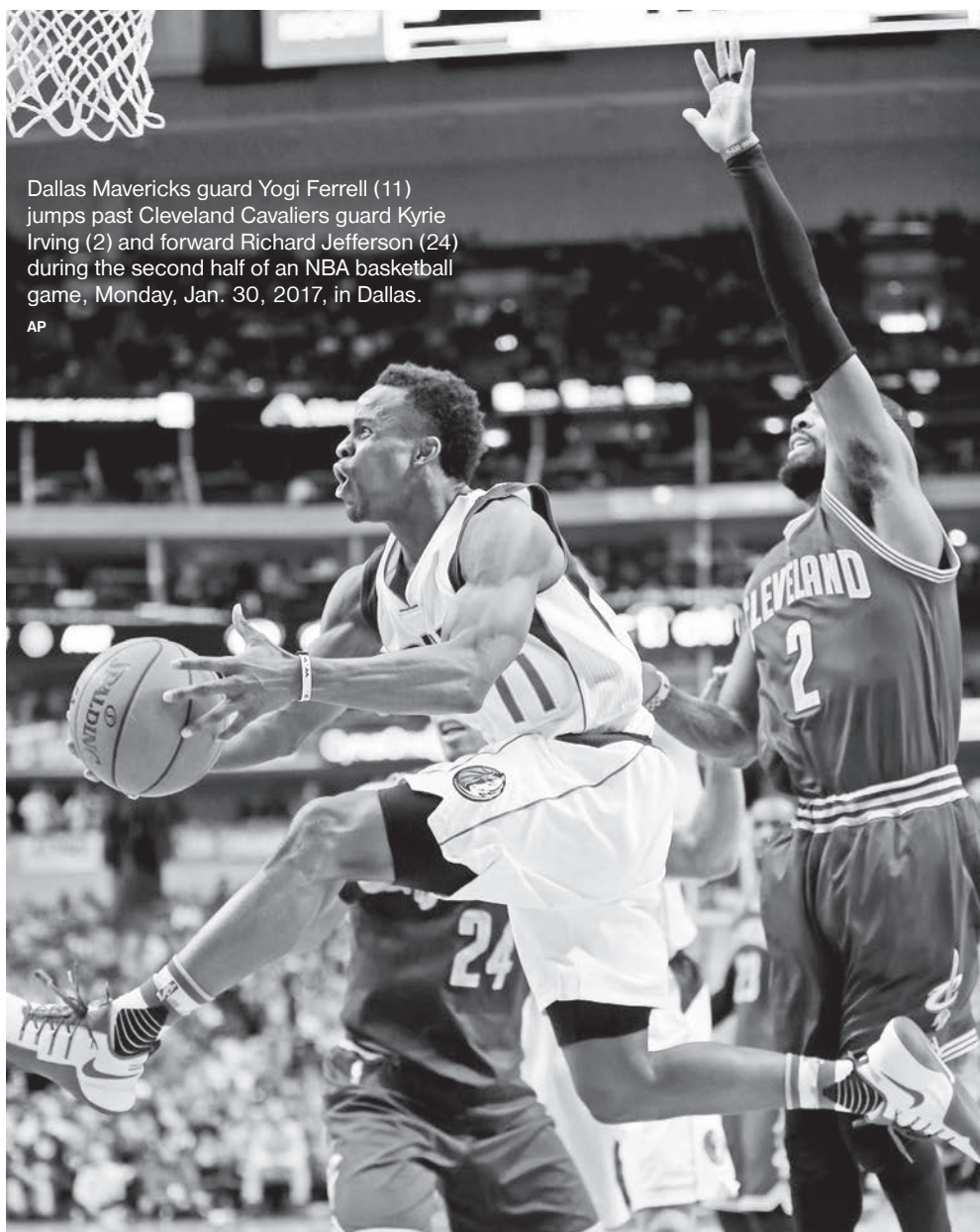
Ferrell hit a 3-pointer and a driving layup to give the Mavericks their biggest lead at 102-85 with 3:52 remaining. At the next timeout, with the Cavaliers down by 15, coach Tyrone Lue pulled James and Irving after they had each missed their only two shots of the fourth quarter.

"For me, it's one of those games where they were faster than us," Lue said. "They were attacking the basket. They just ran faster and harder than us."

Celtics 113, Pistons 109

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 24 of his 41 points in the fourth quarter to help the Celtics extend their winning streak to four games.

Jae Crowder added 21 points and Al Horford scored 13 for Boston, which had to



Dallas Mavericks guard Yogi Ferrell (11) jumps past Cleveland Cavaliers guard Kyrie Irving (2) and forward Richard Jefferson (24) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Jan. 30, 2017, in Dallas.

AP

rally after Detroit surged midway through the fourth quarter and the teams traded the lead.

Andre Drummond had 28 points and pulled down 22 rebounds for the Pistons, who outscored Boston 60-38 in the paint and led the Celtics on rebounds 51-44. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope added 18 points for Detroit, which lost its third straight.

Thomas extended his run of games with at least 20 points to 32 in a row. He carried Boston down the stretch, making nine free throws in the fourth quarter while going 15 for 15

from the line.

Heat 104, Nets 96

In Miami, Goran Dragic scored 20 points and Dion Waiters added 19 as the Heat pushed the NBA's longest current winning streak to eight games.

James Johnson had 17, Rodney McGruder 13 and Hassan Whiteside 12 for Miami. Waiters and Dragic combined to hand out 17 assists for the Heat, who took the lead for good with a 17-0 run late in the first half.

Miami outscored Brooklyn 33-12 from 3-point range.

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 16 points for Brooklyn (9-39), which has lost six straight and 17 of its last 18.

76ers 122, Kings 119

In Philadelphia, Robert Covington had 23 points and 10 rebounds to rally Philadelphia to the victory.

The Sixers overcame 46 points from DeMarcus Cousins and won again without injured center Joel Embiid, who sat out with a left knee contusion. He also will not travel with the Sixers for road games later this week against Dallas

and San Antonio. The Sixers officially listed Embiid as doubtful for those two games.

This game was postponed Nov. 30 by the NBA because of condensation on the court at the Wells Fargo Center.

Grizzlies 115, Suns 96

In Phoenix, Mike Conley scored a career-high 38 points and Memphis just missed a franchise record with 16 3-pointers as the Grizzlies rolled past the Phoenix Suns.

Conley matched his career best with seven 3s (in 10 attempts) and made 12 of 18 shots overall in his fourth 30-point game of the season, having had only five of those in the rest of his career.

Marc Gasol and Zach Randolph each added 18 points for the Grizzlies in their third stop of a season-high, six-game road trip.

Devin Booker scored 22, running his string of 20-point games to 13, for Phoenix. Rookie Marquese Chriss added a career-high 20.

Phoenix never led and trailed by as many as 30 in matching its season worst with a fourth straight loss.

Timberwolves 111, Magic 105, OT

In Minneapolis, Andrewiggins scored 27 points and Ricky Rubio made a career-high six 3-pointers to lead Minnesota to the home win.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 23 points and 12 rebounds, Rubio added 22 points, eight rebounds and eight assists, and Wiggins forced overtime with a jumper with 10 seconds to play. The Wolves win for the eighth time in 11 games.

Elfrid Payton scored 21 points and Serge Ibaka had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Magic, who came back from nine points down with five minutes to play to take the lead late in regulation.

CLEVELAND (AP)—The Cavaliers will be down one All-Star for the time being.

Kevin Love will sit out at least another game—and possibly more—because of recurring back spasms. The forward underwent an MRI on Monday, and although the team said the tests showed no structural damage, he will miss Wednesday night's game against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Love, who was named an Eastern Conference reserve last week, has been bothered by spasms for several weeks. He left Sunday's win over Oklahoma City in the first half, and did not travel with the NBA champions for their game in Dallas so he could get tests and further evaluation.

Cavs' Love to miss more time with back spasms

The Cavs continued to struggle, losing 104-97 to the Mavericks and dropping to 7-8 in January. The loss also trimmed Cleveland's lead for the top spot in the Eastern Conference to 2 1/2 games over Boston.

Love is averaging 19.9 points and 11 rebounds in what to this point has been the best of his three seasons with Cleveland. However, his back issues are a concern for the 28-year-old and the Cavs, who signed him to a five-year, \$110 million contract in 2015.

The Cavs play five of their next six games on the road and likely will take their time making sure Love is healthy.

There's no urgency at this point other than to get him ready for the season's final two months and the postseason.

"This has been our mantra since we all came together: Next man up," said forward Tristan Thompson, who had 19 points, 12 rebounds, four blocks and four steals in Sunday's 107-91 win over the Thunder. "We talk about it every year. Next man up. We hope Kevin gets well, takes care of his body, because you know we're going to need him for the long haul."

"So whatever he has to do to get 100 percent, that's the most important. We need Kev for the long haul. Everyone

wants to push it through, but if you're hurt or you're not feeling right, get right because we need the big fella."

Cavs coach Tyrone Lue started Richard Jefferson on Monday against Dallas.

With Love out, Lue said he planned to stagger the playing time of All-Stars LeBron James and Kyrie Irving, making sure one or both of them is always on the floor.

Love's back issue isn't new. He was kept out of the second half of a loss at Golden State on Jan. 16 with spasms and sat out a Jan. 18 home game against Phoenix. He's been dealing with a back problem since he came to Cleve-

land from Minnesota in a blockbuster trade in 2014. He scored one point and grabbed eight rebounds in 12 minutes Sunday before his back tightened up on him.

Love's status could have a ripple effect over the coming weeks as the team looks to add frontcourt depth and a backup point guard. General manager David Griffin is expected to make some moves before the Feb. 23 trade deadline.

The Cavs have an open roster spot and it's possible they could sign a big man to a 10-day contract while Love recovers.

Love's back flared up just when things were starting to

calm down for the Cavaliers, who entered Monday's game at 32-14.

Cleveland has been dealing with some recent turbulence with ugly losses, and after James called the team's roster "top heavy" and questioned whether the front office was satisfied with one title.

While being named an Eastern Conference All-Star reserve last week, Love's name surfaced again in trade rumors, this time in a potential deal with the New York Knicks for Carmelo Anthony. Although the Cavs did not comment on a report the Knicks wanted to trade Carmelo Anthony for Love, James and Anthony are close friends and have talked in the past about playing together.

Patriots owner Kraft pulls some punches, throws others



HOUSTON (AP)—Robert Kraft is pulling his punches over “Deflategate.”

Well, some of them.

While the New England Patriots owner and once close confidant of NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell wants to celebrate yet another trip to the Super Bowl this week, he also couldn't back down from a challenge Monday night to address the whole mess. So Kraft took a couple of shots during the Patriots' availability, yet also made sure not to temper the festive mood.

“Everybody wants to protect their family,” Kraft said when asked about the aftermath of the deflated footballs case from the 2014 AFC championship game that resulted in Tom Brady's four-game suspension, a \$1 million fine for the franchise and the loss of its first-round draft pick in 2016.

“I think our family was involved, or accused of being involved, in something that was mishandled and became inappropriate. Sometimes in a complicated situation in business, people start pointing fingers, and we want to assure everyone that we are together.”

Kraft then cited a Hebrew saying from the Old Testament.

“When tough times come,” he translated, “there's nothing bad that happens that doesn't have good associated with it.”

“In a way, that galvanized our team.”

Sure looks that way considering the Patriots (16-2) had the NFL's best record this season, eased to the conference title with lopsided wins over Houston and Pittsburgh and are 3-point favorites for



New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft answers questions during opening night for the NFL Super Bowl 51 football game at Minute Maid Park Monday, Jan. 30, 2017, in Houston. AP

Sunday's Super Bowl against Atlanta (13-5).

After the home victory over the Steelers, Kraft accepted the Lamar Hunt Trophy—no, Goodell was not on hand to present it—and made a not-too-veiled reference to “Deflategate.”

“For a number of reasons, all of you in this stadium understand how big this win

was,” Kraft said. “And we have to go to Houston and win one more.”

He's in Houston with his team now, and Kraft tried to stick to the business at hand, not carrying out any vendetta.

“I feel privileged to be here in the Super Bowl city,” he said. “There's a time and a place to talk about problems. I'm going to stay fo-

cused on being here.”

Kraft is such a veteran of Super Bowls, having also been to one in 1997 with Bill Parcells as his coach, that he gets calls from other owners about how to handle the week. So it was no surprise when he revealed that Falcons boss Arthur Blank called him.

“Arthur asked me for some advice about being in (the

Super Bowl),” Kraft said. “I told him, ‘Don't let anyone ruin these two weeks for you. Focus on how lucky we are to be here.’”

Kraft must have heard the chorus of boos when his team captains were introduced onstage after Atlanta's media session and before New England's. The Falcons' captains weren't

subjected to any such jeers.

It wasn't in direct response to that moment, but Kraft did say something that reflects how his team hardly engenders the same warm feelings across America that the Cubs recently did.

“Jealousy and envy are incredible diseases,” he said. “We try to take it and turn it into something that's positive.”

Cardinals must give Astros top 2 picks, \$2M for hacking



**N E W
Y O R K**
(A P) —

The St. Louis Cardinals were stripped of their top two picks in this year's amateur draft Monday and ordered to give them to Houston along with \$2 million as compensation for hacking the Astros' email system and scouting database, the final and unprecedented step in an unusual case of cybercrime involving two Major League Baseball teams.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred also banned former St. Louis executive Christopher Correa for life as he ruled the Cardinals must give the 56th and 75th draft choices in June to Houston. They must pay the Astros the money within 30 days.

Correa, the Cardinals' director of baseball development until July 2015, pleaded guilty

in federal court last year to five counts of unauthorized access of a protected computer. He was sentenced to 46 months in prison and ordered to pay the Astros \$279,039 in restitution.

“Although Mr. Correa's conduct was not authorized by the Cardinals, as a matter of MLB policy I am holding the Cardinals responsible for his conduct,” Manfred wrote. “A club suffers material harm when an employee of another club illegally accesses its confidential and proprietary information, particularly intrusions of the nature and scope present here. In addition, as a result of Mr. Correa's conduct, the Astros suffered substantial negative publicity and had to endure the time, expense and distraction of both a lengthy government investigation and an MLB investigation.”

Cardinals chairman Bill

DeWitt Jr. said in a statement the “findings are fully consistent with our own investigation's conclusion that this activity was isolated to a single individual.”

“This has been a long and challenging process for all of us, especially those within our baseball operations department,” St. Louis general manager John Mozeliak said. “We have learned a great deal along the way and we have taken additional steps to ensure that something like this doesn't ever happen again.”

Houston said “this unprecedented award by the commissioner's office sends a clear message of the severity of these actions.”

Correa was employed by the Cardinals from 2009-15. When he was sentenced last July by U.S. District Judge Lynn N. Hughes, Correa said

he was “overwhelmed with remorse and regret for my actions” that cost him his career and his home.

“I violated my values and it was wrong. I behaved shamefully,” he said then. “The whole episode represents the worst thing I've done in my life by far.”

Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow told reporters in June 2014 the team had been the victim of hackers who accessed servers and published online months of internal trade talks. Astros general counsel Giles Kibbe said Correa accessed the Astros' system about 60 times over two years.

Federal prosecutors said in a sentencing memorandum that Correa used the password of Sig Mejdal, Houston's director of division sciences who had been the Cardinals' director of amateur draft anal-

ysis. When he left St. Louis in December 2011, Mejdal was directed to give his computer to Correa along with its password, and Mejdal later used an almost identical password with his Astros account.

Prosecutors said Correa had access to the Astros' system from January 2012 until June 2014 and entered the team's Ground Control database of confidential scouting reports, statistics and contract information 48 times. He also accessed the email of five Houston employees, including that of Mejdal.

After a Sports Illustrated article that detailed the Ground Control system was published on June 26, 2014, Correa the next night unsuccessfully tried to access Ground Control using the accounts of Mejdal, Luhnow, analyst Colin Wyers, manager Bo Porter and pitch-

ing coach Brent Strom.

The following morning, Correa got into Mejdal's email, found the Ground Control passwords for three Astros minor leaguers, emailed them to himself, then used the passwords of two minor leaguers to enter Ground Control, prosecutors said. Finding they had only limited access, he tried unsuccessful variations of passwords that had previously worked for him involving accounts of Luhnow, Mejdal, Wyers and seven other Astros officials.

Prosecutors concluded Correa leaked notes of Astros' trade discussions to Deadspin, which published them on June 30, 2014.

St. Louis already had lost its original top pick, No. 19, as compensation for signing free-agent outfielder Dexter Fowler. The Cardinals' first pick now will be No. 94 overall. Houston will have five selections in the top 94. The Astros already had slots 15, 53 and 91.

Four hundred fifty-eight runners and walkers put man's best friend first as they took to the Beach Road Pathway during last Jan. 20's Marianas Sunset Fun Run, a fundraising event organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority and benefiting stray animal control.

In addition to a rush of last-minute registrants that left volunteers surrendering their complimentary T-shirts to participants, the MVA has decided to match the funds raised from registration fees, doubling the total donation the Saipan Mayor's Dog Control Program to \$4,560.

"Wow, we are just overwhelmed with the tremendous outpouring of support for the run," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "We had less than 200 registrants on Thursday and ended up with double that amount on Friday."

The Marianas Sunset Fun Run was held to mark the end of the yearlong celebration of the MVA's 40th anniversary.

"Some of the participants came in support of the MVA and tourism, some came to show their support and love for dogs, and everyone ended up a winner," said Concepcion.



Joedy San Nicholas and Tapio were among the many dog lovers and dogs who joined the Marianas Sunset Fun Run.

LEE
From Page 28

Lee is still in contention in the singles event in the NZ ITF Summer Championships 2017 after sweeping her first two games at the Scarbro Tennis Centre.

The No. 6 seed Lee showed no mercy in beating Australia's Tiana Glazbrook, 6-0, 6-0. She then took only two sets anew to eliminate Korea's Jiho Sin, 6-2, 6-3, to march into the third round of the 64-player main draw. In Round 3, Lee will be facing Australia's Ivana Popovic.

458 join Marianas Sunset Fun Run

cion. "We ran out of complimentary T-shirts and participants overflowed from the pathway onto the bike lane on Beach Road. What a great show of support!"

Top male finishers in ranking order were: Allan Zhao Chenxi (19:25), Nehemiah Fernandez (20:10), Taro Aikawa (20:11), Kosuke Sato (20:22), and Taro Kubo (20:34). Top female finishers in ranking order were: Mari Narita (21:12), Ella Zhang (21:26), Emily Northrop (22:24), Sakiko Eda (23:02), and Elena Gersonde (25:01).

T-shirts provided by the MVA and TanHoldings Corp. were distributed to registrants while supplies lasted. Taste of the Marianas tokens were awarded to the first five male and first five female finishers. Also, the first 40 registrants under 18 received a Saipan-da backpack.

Joining event organizers MVA and Saipan Mayor's Office as supporters were: Bridge Capital, DFS Galleria, IT&E, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, Mari-



Saipan Mayor David Apatang addresses participants before the start of the Marianas Sunset Fun Run on Jan. 20, 2017, at Garapan Fishing Base, Saipan.

ana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA)/Tasi Watch Rangers, Marianas Tourism Education

Council (MTEC), Tan Holdings Corp., Triathlon Association of the CNMI (TRAC),

and U.S. Marine Corps recruiting office, The MVA's next sporting

event will be IRONMAN 70.3 Saipan in March 11, 2017. (PR)

MITA
From Page 28

Mariana Islands Football Association and head coach of the CNMI Men's National Team.

Mita, who took over from Sekiguchi early last month, will work on the island's grassroots program and talent identification through the physical education classes both in the private and public schools in the Commonwealth and strengthen the national teams (youth, men's and women's).

"Our national teams will be competing in international tournaments this year and I will do my best to prepare them and help them win games. I know it will take time to achieve these goals, but with teamwork and positive thinking, we can do it," he said.

The CNMI is Mita's fourth stop in his more than a decade of handling national teams. Before moving here, he was the technical director of Jordan Football Association. Mita was also the former technical director of Bangladesh Football Federation and Sudan Football Association and once coached a professional club in India. In Japan, he played in the semi-pro ranks for eight years and later coached a high school team.

The 41-year-old coach received an offer to fill Sekiguchi's spot in August last year and had no second thoughts accepting the job.

"I was impressed with CNMI football. For such a small island, there are a lot of activities and the people are cooperative and very support-

ive," said Mita, who briefly played for a pro club in the Netherlands.

"I know the FA is young compared to the other countries I had been and that's a big challenge for me because I really want to contribute to make sure the FA will continue to improve," the new technical head said.

The Japanese added that the safe and quiet life that Saipan offers made it easier for him to move here.

"The people are very warm and friendly. When you cross the street, the car will stop and let you go. I feel very safe here," Mita said.

As for the CNMI players, he is pleased to see their willingness to learn and improve.

"When they make mistakes during practices, they do their best to recover and

TWIN
From Page 28

Jude Tengco paced Rollers 1 with his 17 points.

Lizama was still the top scorer for the Ol'Aces 2 in their 20-point win over the Ol'Aces 1 after firing 16 markers. Three other Ol'Aces players chipped in at least 6 points apiece in the easy win.

Duncan Laxa had 11 points for the Ol'Aces 1, which dropped to a 2-4 record.

The Ol'Aces 1 earlier prevailed against the 670 Thunder, 46-35, while Gen Cup also won the battle of teams in the lower half of the stand-

ings after outclassing Rollers 2, 53-48.

John Paul Cruz starred in Gen Cup's victory after recording 18 points, while John Elchico contributed 10.

Patrick Duenas had 16 points for Rollers 2, which failed to notch a single win in the tournament. Gen Cup improved to a 2-4 record.

The Ol'Aces 1 also earned its second win in six games after its double-digit victory against the 670 Thunder.

Again, Laxa stood out for the Ol'Aces 2 after making 22 points, while Parsley Linaogo tallied 16 points for the 670 Thunder (2-4).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
NBA STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	30	18	.625	—
Toronto	29	19	.604	1
New York	21	28	.429	9½
Philadelphia	18	29	.383	11½
Brooklyn	9	39	.188	21
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	28	20	.583	—
Washington	27	20	.574	½
Charlotte	23	25	.479	5
Miami	19	30	.388	9½
Orlando	19	31	.380	10
Central Division				
Cleveland	32	15	.681	—
Indiana	25	22	.532	7
Chicago	24	25	.490	9
Milwaukee	21	26	.447	11
Detroit	21	27	.438	11½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	36	11	.766	—
Houston	35	16	.686	3
Memphis	29	21	.580	8½
New Orleans	19	29	.396	17½
Dallas	18	30	.375	18½
Northwest Division				
Utah	30	19	.612	—
Oklahoma City	28	20	.583	1½
Denver	21	25	.457	7½
Portland	21	28	.429	9
Minnesota	19	29	.396	10½
Pacific Division				
Golden State	41	7	.854	—
L.A. Clippers	30	18	.625	11
Sacramento	19	29	.396	22
L.A. Lakers	16	34	.320	26
Phoenix	15	33	.313	26
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

SSC Double Distance Meet

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Swimmers splash water to their body before competing in the 400m freestyle race during the SSC Double Distance Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool last Jan. 21.



Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio cools down after the race.



Tsunami Saipan's Julia Jinang gets ready for the 100m freestyle race.



Tsunami Saipan's Aasish Dangol races in the 400m freestyle event.



A swimmer competes in the 200m freestyle event.



Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru is on his way to the finish line of the 400m freestyle event.



Tsunami Saipan's Kean Pajarillaga swims the final lap of the 100m freestyle race.



Dolphin Club Saipan swimmers join Tsunami Saipan and Saipan Swim Club members in the 100m race.

Rookie helps
last-place
Mavs topple
Cavs, 104-97

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Patriots owner
Kraft pulls
some punches,
throws others

PAGE 25

28 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Twin wins for Ol'Aces 2; Gen Cup prevails

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Ol'Aces 2 swept their final two games in the elimination round of the 2016 TanHoldings Christmas Basketball Tournament last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium to make it to the playoffs of the boys U16 division contest.

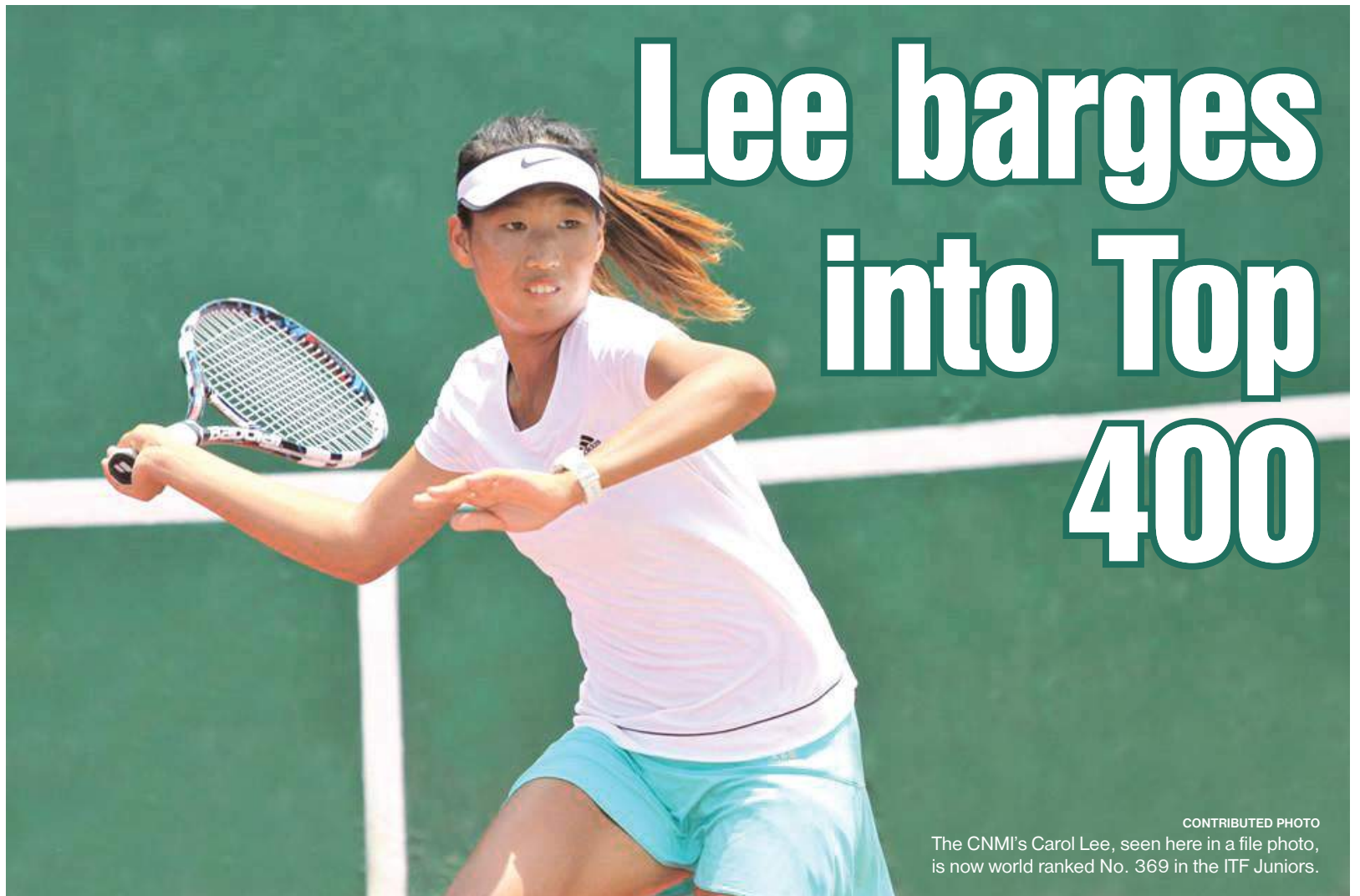
The Ol'Aces 2 first edged the Rollers 1, 47-43, and then crushed the Ol'Aces 1, 52-32, in their make-up game to finish the round-robin preliminary with a 5-2 record. Pending results of last Monday's matches, the Ol'Aces 2 are in second place behind the unbeaten and first semifinalist 670 Sonics (7-0), while Rollers 1 and MHS, which hold similar 4-2 cards, are likely to move into the playoffs, too.

Rikko Lizama lifted the Ol'Aces 2 to the 3-point win against Rollers 1 after scoring 22 points, including 6 of the team's last 9 points. Troy Ngirarois drilled the 3 other markers of the Ol'Aces and backed up Lizama. Ngirarois and John Ichihara combined for 15 points to back up Lizama.

See TWIN on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Gen Cup's David Lai unloads a shot during the second half of their game against Rollers 2 in the boys U16 division of the TanHoldings holiday caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Carol Lee, seen here in a file photo, is now world ranked No. 369 in the ITF Juniors.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee entered the Top 400 of the ITF Juniors world rankings after competing in two tournaments in New Zealand last month.

As of Jan. 23, Lee is at No. 369, making her the highest-ranked player (boys and girls) in the entire Pacific, surpassing former Commonwealth

bet Ji Hoon Heo, who ranked as high as No. 440 in 2010.

Before joining the Wilson Tennis Canterbury in Christchurch and

the 2017 Tecnifibre Tennis Central Championships in Wellington, the 15-year-old Lee was at No. 470. Last season, she climbed to as high as No. 443.

The CNMI player then moved to No. 404 after making it to the semifinals of the doubles and quarterfinals of the singles event in her tournament in Christchurch. At the conclusion of her first Grade 4 tournament, she traveled to Wellington for the 2017 Tecnifibre Tennis Central Championships and her

semis stint in the singles and quarterfinals in the doubles allowed her to barge into the Top 400.

Lee is now in Auckland for her third and last ranking tournament in New Zealand—the NZ ITF Summer Championships 2017. The competition is a Grade 3 event and offers more ranking points, which Lee needs to move closer to her dream of making it to the Top 200.

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Mita to bring continuity to CNMI soccer program

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The arrival of veteran coach Michiteru Mita to Saipan will ensure the continuity of the soccer program on island.

"I am here to provide continuity with the program. I will continue what coach Seki (Kiyoshi Sekiguchi) started and introduce ways to improve them," said Mita, the new technical director of the Northern

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director and CNMI Men's National Team coach Michiteru Mita poses for a photo before his interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday at the NMIFA office in Garapan.

